

Acting AG overseeing Mueller probe says he's not interfered

By ERIC TUCKER and MARY CLARE JALONICK

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker said on Friday that he has "not interfered in any way" in the special counsel's Russia investigation as he faced a contentious and partisan congressional hearing in his waning days on the job. The hearing before the House Judiciary Committee was the first, and likely only, chance for newly empowered Democrats in the majority to grill an attorney general they perceive as a Donald Trump loyalist and whose appointment they suspect was aimed at suppressing investigations of

the Republican president. They confronted Whitaker on his past criticism of special counsel Robert Mueller's work and his refusal to recuse himself from overseeing it, attacked him over his prior business dealings and sneeringly challenged his credentials as the country's chief law enforcement officer. "We're all trying to figure out: Who are you, where did you come from and how the heck did you become the head of the Department of Justice," said Rep. Hakeem Jeffries. When Whitaker tried to respond, the New York Democrat interrupted,

Continued on Page 3



Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker is sworn in before the House Judiciary Committee on Capitol Hill, Friday, Feb. 8, 2019 in Washington.

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Cindy McCain apology shows challenge for mixed-race families

By JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Cindy McCain has apologized after she claimed she stopped a case of human trafficking at the Phoenix airport when she reported a toddler with a woman of a different ethnicity and “something didn’t click.” Police said they investigated but there was no evidence of a crime. The incident draws attention to the suspicion that parents, relatives, nannies and others face when they travel with children who don’t look like them. That it was McCain, who adopted a daughter from Bangladesh and is recog-

nized globally as an advocate for ending human trafficking, illustrates the challenge of being vigilant without triggering concerns about racial bias. “There’s a huge danger in trusting your gut when it comes to race and all kinds of identity dimensions,” said Andrew Grant-Thomas, who co-founded an organization called Embrace Race along with his wife. “We make these split-second judgments. And often those split-second judgments ... are driven by bias.” It reminded Grant-Thomas, who is African American, of the intimidating stares he would get while babysitting



In this Nov. 17, 2018 file photo, Cindy McCain pauses while presenting the inaugural John McCain Prize for Leadership in Public Service to the People of the island of Lesbos, Greece at the Halifax International Security Forum in Halifax, Canada.

Associated Press

his godson, who appears white. When someone’s suspected of a crime while simply living their life, “there’s a cost,” and the person has probably endured suspicion and questions many times before, Grant-Thomas said. McCain has not said if other factors besides ethnicity led her to suspect wrongdoing. “I came in from a trip I’d been on,” McCain said on Phoenix radio station KTAR. “I spotted — it looked odd — it was a woman of a different ethnicity than the child, this little toddler she had. Something didn’t click with me. I tell people ‘trust your gut.’ I went over to the police and I told them what I thought, and they went over and questioned her, and by God she was trafficking that kid.” She went on to say the woman “was waiting for the guy who bought the

child to get off an airplane.” Phoenix Police Sgt. Armando Carbajal confirmed McCain requested a welfare check on a child at the airport on Jan. 30, but said “officers determined there was no evidence of criminal conduct or child endangerment.” McCain was discussing trafficking at the Super Bowl in Atlanta, which she said attracts sophisticated traffickers who sell women and children for sex. She urged people to speak up if they see something odd. “I commend the police officers for their diligence,” she wrote. “I apologize if anything else I have said on this matter distracts from ‘if you see something, say something.’” McCain is an outspoken advocate for preventing human trafficking. She’s co-chair of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council, which recommends ways to end exploitation, and

trafficking is a focus for the McCain Institute for International Leadership at Arizona State University. “Her hyper sensitivity to looking for trafficking in this instance was not correct,” but everyone has a responsibility to be aware of the issue and it shouldn’t discourage anyone from reporting potential problems, Luke Knittig, a spokesman for the McCain Institute, said in an email. The “if you see something, say something” call popularized after the 9/11 attacks is a reminder not to be a bystander and assume someone else will act. But it’s important to “talk to your gut before you talk to someone else,” asking whether the suspicion is based on behavior or appearance, said Alexis McGill Johnson, co-founder and executive director of the Perception Institute, which researches bias and trains people to avoid it. □

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Mueller probe

Continued from Front

"Mr. Whitaker, that was a statement, not a question. I assume you know the difference." Yet Democrats yielded no new information about the status of the Mueller probe as Whitaker repeatedly refused to discuss conversations with the president or answer questions that he thought might reveal details. Though clearly exasperated — he drew gasps and chuckles when he told the committee chairman that his five-minute time limit for questions was up — Whitaker nonetheless sought to assuage Democratic concerns by insisting he had never discussed the Mueller probe with Trump or other White House officials, and that there'd been no change in its "overall management."

"We have followed the special counsel's regulations to a T," Whitaker said. "There has been no event, no decision, that has required me to take any action, and I have not interfered in any way with the special counsel's investigation." Republicans made clear they viewed the hearing as pointless political grandstanding, especially since Whitaker may have less than a week left in the job, and some respected his wishes by asking questions about topics other than Mueller's probe into potential coordination between Russia and the Trump campaign. The Senate is expected to vote as soon as next week on confirming William Barr, Trump's pick for attorney general.

"I'm thinking about maybe we just set up a popcorn machine in the back because that's what this is becoming. It's becoming a show," said Republican Rep. Doug Collins of Georgia, who accused his Democratic colleagues of "character assassination." But Rep. Jerrold Nadler, the committee chairman who a day earlier had threatened to subpoena Whitaker to ensure his appearance, left no doubt about his party's focus.

"You decided that your private interest in overseeing this particular investigation, and perhaps others from which you should have been recused, was more important than the integrity of the department," said Nadler, of New York. "The question that this committee must now ask is: Why?" Whitaker toggled between defending his role in the special counsel's investigation and echoing the president's talking points, conceding for instance that while foreign interference in U.S. elections was a problem, so too was voter fraud — a key issue for Republicans, but one that Democrats say is overstated. He said he had no reason to doubt Mueller's honesty or to believe that he was conflicted in his leadership of the investigation.

But he also declined to say if he still agreed with sharply critical comments about the Mueller probe that he made as a television commentator before arriving at the Justice Department in the fall of 2017 as chief of staff to then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions. And he passed up a chance to break from the president's characterization of the Mueller investigation as a "witch hunt," saying simply, "I think it would be inappropriate for me to comment about an ongoing investigation." Whitaker also denied a news report that Trump had lashed out at him after the guilty plea of Michael Cohen, the president's former lawyer. But he did not answer directly about whether he had discussed that investigation, run by prosecutors in New York, with Trump, insisting only that the president had never instructed him to take particular actions.

He said his comment at an unrelated news conference last week that the Mueller investigation was close to wrapping up — a remark that generated significant attention and speculation — reflected only "my position as acting attorney general." He said Mueller would finish on his own schedule. □



Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., questions Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker as he appears before the House Judiciary Committee on Capitol Hill, Friday, Feb. 8, 2019, in Washington.

Associated Press

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In this July 29, 2015 file photo, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of Calif., standing with former Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., holds up the gavel Dingell used 50 years ago when Medicare legislation was passed during an event marking the 50th Anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

Dingell's farewell message to America includes dig at Trump

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) —

On the day of his death, longtime Rep. John Dingell dictated a farewell message to America and used some of his final words to criticize President Donald Trump.

Dingell dictated the message to his wife and congressional successor Debbie Dingell Thursday in their suburban Detroit home. The Washington Post published the opinion piece on Friday.

"One of the advantages to knowing that your demise is imminent, and that reports of it will not be greatly exaggerated, is that you have a few moments to compose some parting thoughts," Dingell said Thursday. "In our modern political age, the presidential bully pulpit seems dedicated to sowing division and denigrating, often in the most irrelevant and infantile personal terms, the political opposition."

Dingell, who died Thursday at age 92, didn't mention Trump by name in the article.

Dingell represented parts of southeast Michigan for nearly 60 years before retiring in 2014 as the longest-serving member of Congress in U.S. history.

On Friday, Trump ordered

flags at the White House and other federal facilities lowered to half-staff in Dingell's memory. The president also used Twitter to extend sympathies to Debbie Dingell and other family members. "Longest serving Congressman in country's history which, if people understand politics, means he was very smart," Trump tweeted. "A great reputation and highly respected man."

Dingell's opinion article was similar to a letter penned by former Arizona Sen. John McCain before his death in August from brain cancer. In McCain's letter, the late Arizona Republican appeared to repudiate Trump's politics one last time, saying, "We weaken our greatness when we confuse our patriotism with tribal rivalries that have sown resentment and hatred and violence in all the corners of the globe."

Much of Dingell's letter to the Post focused on the country and improvements made over the decades to Medicare, the environment, the Great Lakes and efforts to end racial discrimination.

"All of these challenges were addressed by Congress," Dingell said. "Maybe not as fast as we wanted,

or as perfectly as hoped. The work is certainly not finished. But we've made progress — and in every case, from the passage of Medicare through the passage of civil rights, we did it with the support of Democrats and Republicans who considered themselves first and foremost to be Americans."

He concluded by saying "as I prepare to leave this all behind, I now leave you in control of the greatest nation of mankind and pray God gives you the wisdom to understand the responsibility you hold in your hands. May God bless you all, and may God bless America." Trump's proclamation applies to flags at the White House, other public buildings and grounds, U.S. military posts and naval stations, and on all federal naval vessels. They'll be lowered until sunset Saturday.

Flags at U.S. embassies and other facilities overseas also are ordered to half-staff. Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer also ordered flags on state property lowered. A public visitation will be held Monday at Ford Community and Performing Arts Center in Dearborn. A funeral will be held at a local church Tuesday. □

EPA enforcement drops sharply in Trump's 2nd year

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Civil and criminal crackdowns on polluters dropped sharply in the second year of the Trump administration, according to 2018 enforcement figures released Friday by the Environmental Protection Agency. The Trump administration EPA says the agency is taking a new tack with polluters, giving states more of a role in regulation and enforcement and stressing education and voluntary compliance with offenders as well as fines and criminal prosecution.

"In fiscal year 2018, we continued our focus on expediting site cleanup, deterring noncompliance, and returning facilities to compliance with the law," Susan Bodine, acting head of EPA enforcement, said in a statement.

The EPA has been one of the most active agencies overall in carrying out the deregulatory goals of President Donald Trump. Environmental and public-health groups say the business-friendly rollbacks place public health and the environment at greater risk.

Jeff Ruch of Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility said the newly released 2018 totals show environmental enforcement "entering a near dark age."

Declines include civil investigations carried out by the agency, which fell to 22 last year, down from

40 in 2017 and 125 in 2016, the last year of the Obama administration.

Criminal fines and restitution tumbled, from \$207 million in 2016, \$3 billion in 2017 — including a \$2.8 billion fine against Volkswagen over emissions-rigging, a case initiated under the Obama administration — to \$86 million last year.

Federal environmental regulators opened 129 criminal cases in 2018. That was down from 170 under the last year of the Obama administration, although up slightly from 115 criminal cases opened the first year under Trump.

Numbers show overall criminal and civil enforcement to protect the environment and public health on a general downward trend for many years, but the decline has sharpened under the Trump administration. That includes a 30-year low in referrals for criminal prosecution in 2018.

Civil penalties last year were the lowest since the EPA's enforcement office was created in 1994, said Cynthia Giles, assistant administrator of that office through the Obama administration.

"Not only are the Trump EPA's enforcement numbers at historic lows, they are on track to get worse," Giles said.

EPA civil investigations and evaluations — precursors to possible tougher enforcement action — fell from 13,500 in 2016, 11,750 in 2017 to 10,612 last year. q



Arizona health facility rape spurs video surveillance push

By **TERRY TANG**
Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Arizona is trying to catch up to 10 states with laws allowing electronic monitoring and other technology aimed at deterring abuse of vulnerable people at long-term care facilities, following the rape of an incapacitated Phoenix woman who later gave birth.

Cameras are most commonly used, but they pose privacy issues, and advocates and experts disagree about their effectiveness. Some say video surveillance can help in criminal cases but may not stop attacks, while others have seen improvements and urge any effort to safeguard those who are aging, sick, disabled or otherwise unable to protect themselves.

The Arizona Legislature is considering a measure that would let certain facilities install video surveillance in common areas. The providers would have to detail how to avoid privacy violations.

The state would join Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington with laws or regulations allowing surveillance equipment inside nursing homes, assisted living centers and other group residential settings.

"We're looking into how to make it so parents have more reliable ways to ensure their loved ones are safe," said Republican Rep. Nancy Barto, the measure's sponsor. "I'm learning a lot of group homes already do this. Some of those policies are actually working."

Most of those laws place the option and cost of electronic monitoring on residents and their guardians. A majority of the laws say residents or their surrogates can put a camera or monitoring device in their rooms but must notify the facility, among other conditions.

Carole Herman, founder of the advocacy group Foundation Aiding the Elderly, is not sure cameras would



In this Feb. 5, 2019, file pool photo, Nathan Sutherland, accused of raping and impregnating a patient at Hacienda HealthCare, is arraigned in Maricopa County Superior Court in Phoenix, Ariz.

Associated Press

have helped her aunt, who died of bedsores in a nursing home but said that they might be useful in other cases.

Cameras in hallways can show who is at a patient's bedside and how often the patient is getting care, she said. She questions why any facility would oppose them.

"The industry doesn't want it obviously," Herman said. "But if they care about these people, what's the resistance to these cameras?"

Nicole Jorwic, director of rights policy at The Arc, a national advocacy group serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, cautioned that cameras are not a "magic pill."

"Even if the law's written perfectly well, it's not going to capture every form of abuse and neglect," Jorwic said.

While cameras could help catch abusers, it's not clear they're effective at preventing violence, said Brian Lee, a former Florida long-term care public advocate who heads the advocacy

group Families for Better Care. "As far as prevention, I don't know," Lee said, "but I've seen it used for prosecution."

But one expert says a properly designed closed-circuit TV system with multiple monitoring points can be a good deterrent. A common mistake is to have one monitoring area that nobody is watching, which makes cameras reactive instead of proactive tools, said Steve Wilder, president of Sorensen, Wilder & Associates, an Illinois-based health care safety and security consulting group that works primarily with hospitals and senior living communities.

"A lot of facilities think cameras give the message of 'We're not a safe facility.' Nothing could be further from the truth," Wilder said. Details were not known about the security system at the Phoenix facility, where a licensed nurse is charged with sexually assaulting a 29-year-old woman who had a baby boy Dec. 29. Hacienda HealthCare said Thursday that it was closing the intermediate care

facility that serves young people with intellectual or developmental disabilities and would work with the state to move patients elsewhere.

After the birth, the state Department of Health Services implemented new safety measures at Hacienda, including more monitoring of patient care areas but not video cameras.

The department declined to comment on the surveillance legislation Thursday. In Texas, a 2013 law allowing facilities to install and operate video surveillance equipment in common areas has made an impact, health officials said. Devices can only be placed in the state's 13 intermediate care facilities, which serve nearly 3,000 patients with intellectual disabilities.

Cameras have both confirmed and cleared staff in allegations of abuse, neglect or exploitation.

"There was an initial rise as (the Department of Family Protective Services) was able to confirm cases more readily, but since then, the rates have fallen," Carrie Williams, a Texas Health

and Human Services Commission spokeswoman, said in an email.

New Jersey has taken a different approach. Its "Safe Care Cam" program aims to catch abuse or neglect by allowing residents to borrow a hidden camera. A loaner camera led to the January arrest of a caretaker at an assisted living facility. The attorney general's office said footage showed her slapping a 90-year-old bedridden woman on the hand and roughly pushing her head back onto a pillow several times. The victim couldn't communicate verbally because of a stroke.

In Arizona, the lawmaker behind the camera legislation said it has "a good chance" of passing. As chairwoman of the House Health & Human Services Committee, Barto can likely get the measure a hearing. Gov. Doug Ducey, a Republican, is usually skeptical of regulations and has touted his record of rolling them back, but the Republican has ordered agencies to improve protections for people with disabilities. □

Blackface scandal doesn't surprise people of color

By COREY WILLIAMS

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — In the brightly lit Vintage Barber-shop in northwest Detroit, Thomas Carter carefully trimmed the graying hair of a customer as he was asked about photos that depict whites wearing blackface.

He paused and slowly scanned the shop where about a half-dozen black men of various ages awaited their turn. "It's not funny to me. It's not funny to me at all," he said.

From police shootings of black men, to white supremacy rallies, to efforts to remove Confederate Civil War monuments, the nation has lurched from one racial controversy to another in recent years. The latest is blackface — in which someone darkens their face and adds bright red lipstick to create stereotypes and caricatures. The disclosures have angered and frustrated many black people, who say it is mocking and demeaning. The practice took hold in New York City in the 1830s and became immensely popular among post-Civil War whites. In fact, the Jim Crow laws that enforced racial segregation in the South took their name from a character played by blackface performer Thomas Dartmouth Rice. He said his act "Jump, Jim Crow" (or "Jumping Jim Crow") was inspired by a slave he saw.

On the first day of Black History Month a week ago, a photo emerged from Virginia Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam's 1984 medical school yearbook page that showed someone in blackface and another person in a Ku Klux Klan hood and robe.

Northam at first admitted he was in the picture, then denied it a day later, but acknowledged he once blackened his face with shoe polish to imitate Michael Jackson for a dance contest in 1984. The disclosure roiled Virginia politics and prompted widespread calls for Northam to resign.



In this Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019 photo, barber Thomas Carter cuts a customer's hair in Detroit.

He has so far refused.

Days later, Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring — who is second in line to succeed Northam if he resigns — admitted to wearing blackface to look like a rapper during a party when he was a 19-year-old at the University of Virginia in 1980. The Virginia disclosures drew intense attention but are hardly unusual. Just in recent months, Florida's Republican secretary of state resigned in disgrace after a 2005 photo showed him wearing blackface and dressing as a "Hurricane Katrina victim."

Clothing label Gucci said it was pulling a blackface-themed sweater from stores. A Snapchat video shows two Connecticut high school students wearing what seems like blackface. A similar incident was reported last month at the University of Oklahoma, when a man walked around campus in blackface. An old photo has popped up of "The View" co-host Joy Behar wearing makeup to darken her skin for a Halloween costume in the 1970s.

Carter said white people

wearing blackface is a painful reminder of America's history of racism, hate and exploitation.

"It's just a huge form of disrespect. I'm kind of upset with a lot of people allowing it to be done. It's acceptable in a lot of circles, even with our own people," he said.

Education consultant and travel writer Fernanda Meier took to Twitter Wednesday to express her disgust. "Dear white people," she wrote, then retweeted: "Don't wear blackface. Don't think about wearing blackface. To be safe, don't even say the word blackface, except to say 'don't wear blackface.'"

"My skin, hair, lips are a costume to non-black people," Meier told The Associated Press from Bogotá, Colombia, where she currently resides. "There is nothing flattering about using shoe polish or dark makeup to paint one's skin like mine, when the very same thing is the source of my oppression."

The Northam yearbook photo was even worse because the person in blackface was standing next to

another person dressed in a white robe and mask like the Ku Klux Klan, said Korey Garibaldi, an assistant professor in American Studies at the University of Notre Dame.

"With that, you have a literal reference to racial terrorism," Garibaldi said. "It's never just blackface. There's always something that makes this just that much more frightening — the Klan, exclusion from school, a job. It's a whole kind of comprehensive white supremacy, not just a particular sort of image or remark. It's a structure that needs to be challenged." Carter said the person in Klan garb in Northam's yearbook photo angered him as a black man.

"When you see the Klan ... these people took pictures next to bodies, hanging out of a tree," he said in reference to lynchings.

"The brutality that we face on a mental, physical and spiritual level is a lot. Hate is taught. You're not born a racist. So, you have households teaching ... kids. It's inbred. How are you going to stop that?"

Taj Muhammad, a black

Associated Press

man from Detroit, said the incidents show there is still racial hatred.

"I'm disappointed that more black people don't know the history (of blackface) and know it's very insulting," Muhammad said. "I'm not disappointed in people of European descent. Historically, most Europeans never have been embracing of people of African descent."

The number of hate crimes reported in the United States has risen in recent years to more than 4,100 motivated by race or ethnicity in 2017 compared to just under 3,500 the year before, according to Justice Department data.

Chicago-area pastor Eric Dorsey said it springs from systemic cultural bias.

"It's kind of funny in a way where stuff like this comes out and the public has this outrage and this outcry of, 'Oh my God! I can't believe this happened,'" Dorsey said.

"When if you really study the history of this nation, why are you surprised?" He said the publicity around the incidents could be a good thing. □



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Snow storm wallops Seattle, people rescued in Sierra Nevada

By LISA BAUMANN
Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — A winter storm pounded Washington state Friday, forcing the cancellation of 200 flights in Seattle as officials worked to get people off the streets and into shelters during the nation's latest bout with winter weather.

Snow began falling north of Seattle with some areas recording 8 inches (20 centimeters) of snow before it made its way south and enveloped the city.

Gov. Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency, saying everyone in the state should focus on staying safe.

"Forecasters predict this may be a storm unlike one we've seen in many years," he said.

In California, more than 120 visitors and staff members were rescued after being snowbound in a Sierra Nevada resort for five days.

Up to 7 feet (2 meters) of snow had trapped the guests and staff beginning Sunday at Montecito Sequoia Lodge in Kings Canyon National Park, U.S. Forest Service spokesman Alicia Embrey said.

Crews had to travel by snowmobile to get to the lodge in mountains east of Fresno. Heavy equipment and crews then cleared more than 20 fallen trees and 8 miles (13 kilometers) of deep snow on the road leading to the lodge to allow guests and staff to leave the property Thursday night.

Another winter storm was on the way to the region. In Yosemite National Park, as many as 50 housing structures near Half Dome Village were damaged by trees toppled during a snowstorm earlier this week, displacing more than 160 employees who provide food, lodging and other services for visitors.

Elsewhere, more than 148,000 customers were without electricity in Michigan following days of freezing rain. The Consumers Energy utility said power would be restored by late Sunday.

In Seattle, officials urged people to stay off the roads as traffic slowed to a standstill in some places because of the snow.

"Doesn't matter where you're going, expect it to



Hershel Odle looks out toward the cityscape lost in a whiteout as he fishes from a pier during a snowstorm Friday, Feb. 8, 2019, in Seattle.

take a very long time," the Washington Department of Transportation said on Twitter.

Schools and colleges had canceled classes ahead of the storm expected to bring 6 to 8 inches (15 to 20 centimeters) of snow. Scores of flights were cancelled or delayed at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

Snowfall from Sunday and Monday lingered into the week as below-freezing

temperatures gripped the area. A 59-year-old man died Thursday from exposure at a Seattle light rail station.

Additional shelter space opened by city and county officials was filling up. The city was focused on people who are willing to come inside, Will Lemke, spokesman for the Seattle Human Services Department, told the Seattle Times.

"This is an extreme weather event, and offering shelter

is the most important thing we can do right now," he said. Forecasters said Portland, Oregon, could get up to 4 inches (10 centimeters) of snow later in the day, with two more snowstorms expected to hit the city next week.

Residents in Portland and Seattle, two cities where rain is more common than snow in the winter, emptied grocery store shelves and waited in long lines to buy shovels and de-icer. □

Associated Press

Supreme Court blocks Louisiana abortion clinic law

By MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A divided Supreme Court stopped Louisiana from enforcing new regulations on abortion clinics in a test of the conservative court's views on abortion rights.

The justices said by a 5-4 vote late Thursday that they will not allow the state to put into effect a law that requires abortion providers to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals.



In this Feb. 13, 2016, file photo, people stand on the steps of the Supreme Court at sunset in Washington.

Associated Press

Chief Justice John Roberts joined the court's four liberals in putting a hold on the law, pending a full review of the case. President Donald Trump's two Supreme Court appointees, Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh, were among the four conservative members of the court who would have allowed the law to take effect. Kavanaugh wrote a dissenting opinion in which he said the court's action was premature be-

cause the state had made clear it would allow abortion providers an additional 45 days to obtain admitting privileges before it started enforcing the law.

If the doctors succeed, they can continue performing abortions, he said. If they fail, they could return to court, Kavanaugh said. The law is very similar to a Texas measure the justices struck down three years ago. Roberts dissented in that case. □

Judge sentences Canadian serial killer to life in prison

By **ROB GILLIES**

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — A Canadian judge handed down a sentence for serial killer Bruce McArthur on Friday, condemning him to life in prison with no chance for parole for 25 years.

McArthur pleaded guilty last week to eight counts of first-degree murder. The 67-year-old former landscaper sexually assaulted, killed and dismembered men he met in Toronto's Gay Village district over seven years.

Justice John McMahon called McArthur a sexual predator who killed for his own "warped sick gratification" and said the victims suffered slow and painful deaths. He called their dismemberments pure evil, but said the guilty plea spared a jury four months of graphic and gruesome evidence that would have likely required counseling after. McMahon said that even if McArthur lives to 91, the chances of him getting parole are remote at best. Prosecutor Craig Harper had asked for a parole ineligibility period of 50 years, when McArthur would have been 116. The judge said that would've only been symbolic.

"All or most of the victims were vulnerable individuals who were lured to their



In this artist's sketch, serial killer Bruce McArthur, center, attends his sentencing hearing in Toronto on Monday, Feb. 4, 2019.

death," McMahon said. "The accused exploited his victims' vulnerabilities, whether they involved immigration concerns, mental health challenges, or people living a secretive double life."

The victims fit a pattern: Most were of Middle Eastern or South Asian descent and lived on the margins of Canadian society. Their disappearances attracted little attention.

One victim hid the fact that he was gay from his Muslim family. Another was a recent immigrant with a drug problem. A third was a refugee who was ordered deported. And still another

victim was homeless, smoked crack cocaine and worked as a prostitute. But then Andrew Kinsman vanished. The 49-year-old LGBTQ activist and former bartender had many friends. When he suddenly went missing the day after Toronto's gay pride parade, his friends noticed quickly, and so did the police. Investigators found Kinsman's calendar with an entry titled "Bruce" dated June 26, 2017 — the day he disappeared.

"Mr. Kinsman making that notation gave the police the key clue that helped bring the accused to justice," McMahon said.

Kinsman was last seen on a surveillance video getting into a red van that was later linked to McArthur. Kinsman's blood and DNA were found in the van, which McArthur had sold to a junk yard.

"McArthur made a mistake when he killed Andrew Kinsman. Andrew Kinsman was not quite in the same profile as a lot of the other victims and it definitely left a trail," Police Insp. Hank Ildsinga said.

Police found a naked man handcuffed to the bed when they raided McArthur's home and arrested him on Jan. 18, 2018. Police surveilling McArthur moved

in after they saw him bring that man up to his home. The man, who survived, was identified only as Middle Eastern and named "John." Investigators found McArthur had a USB drive that contained a directory with nine subfolders — eight for the men he killed and one for the man found at the time of McArthur's arrest. "I have no hesitation in concluding that if it were not for the police intervention on Jan. 18, 2018, John would have been the ninth victim of Mr. McArthur," McMahon said.

Investigators discovered dismembered remains in planters McArthur used as storage for his business. He also staged photos of some of his victims after they died, posing corpses in fur coats and putting cigars in their mouths.

McArthur pleaded guilty to killing Kinsman, Selim Esen, Majeed Kayhan, Dean Lisowski, Soroush Mahmudi, Skandaraj Navaratnam, Abdulbasir Faizi and Kirushna Kanagaratnam. Police said most of the disappearances weren't reported for 10 to 15 days.

The prosecution said that a frequent site of the killings was McArthur's bedroom and that he repeatedly strangled his victims either with his hands or with rope and a metal bar. □



This photo provided by U.S. Customs and Border Protection shows an officer extracting methamphetamine from a loudspeaker on Jan. 11, 2019 at the Los Angeles-Long Beach seaport.

By **TREVOR MARSHALLSEA**
Associated Press

SYDNEY (AP) — Australian police arrested six people

6 people arrested after largest U.S.-Australian meth seizure

after what authorities said Friday was the largest single seizure of methamphetamine in the United States and the biggest drug haul bound for Australia.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection said 1,728 kilograms (3,800 pounds) of the drug were seized mid-January at the Los Angeles-Long Beach port complex along with smaller amounts of cocaine and heroin.

The drugs were hidden in metal boxes labelled as loudspeakers. Australian authorities said it was also the largest haul of the drug

intercepted while bound for Australia and would have provided around 17 million hits of the substance also known as ice.

Australian authorities said that the operation with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Drug Enforcement Agency, Australian Federal Police and Victoria state police had stopped "a tsunami of ice" from reaching their shores. Police said that six people arrested in Australia on Thursday and Friday were tied to a U.S.-based syndicate under investigation

over the drugs.

Two of those arrested are Americans: a 52-year-old man and a 46-year-old woman.

Police said the raid in the Melbourne suburb of Woodstock where they were arrested also found "hundreds of thousands of dollars of proceeds of crime."

Australian Federal Police Assistant Commissioner Bruce Hill told reporters in Melbourne that police now believe Mexican cartels are actively targeting Australia. □



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France keeps up pressure on Italy in historic EU dispute

By **ANGELA CHARLTON and NICOLE WINFIELD**
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — France's pro-EU government and Italy's populist leaders sparred anew Friday, as business giants from both countries appealed for calm amid the neighbors' biggest diplomatic spat since World War II.

France said the stunning recall of its ambassador to Italy was a temporary move — but an important signal to its historical ally not to meddle in internal French affairs.

In Italy, the deputy prime minister who's the focus of French anger stood his ground, renewing criticism of France's foreign policy. France and Italy are founding members of the European Union, born from the ashes of World War II, and their unusual dispute is rippling around the continent at a time of growing tensions between nationalist and pro-EU forces.

French officials said Friday that this week's recall of French Ambassador Christian Maset was prompted by months of "unfounded attacks" from Italian government members Luigi Di Maio and Matteo Salvini, who have criticized French President Emmanuel Macron's economic and migration policies.

But the main trigger for the crisis appeared to be Di Maio's meeting in a Paris

suburb this week with members of the yellow vests, a French anti-government movement seeking seats in the European Parliament.

French government spokesman Benjamin Griveaux said the visit violated "the most elementary diplomacy" because it was unannounced. Referring to Italy's populist leaders, he criticized a "nationalist leprosy" eating away at Europe's unity and said EU members should "behave better toward partners."

A participant in the meeting, French activist Marc Doyer, told The Associated Press that it was initiated by Di Maio's populist 5-Star movement and aimed at sharing advice on how to build a "citizens' movement."

Doyer said it provided useful technical and other guidance to potential yellow vest candidates and their supporters, and called the diplomat spat an over-reaction.

"It's a political game by certain people," he said. "Free movement exists in Europe, and the meeting didn't cost the French taxpayer anything."

Di Maio said he had done nothing wrong by meeting with the yellow vest protesters without informing the French government.

A borderless Europe "shouldn't just be about allowing free circulation of merchandise and people,



In this Nov. 9, 2018 file photo, Italian deputy Premier and Labor Minister Luigi Di Maio talks to reporters during a press conference at the Foreign Press Association headquarters, in Rome.

Associated Press

but also the free circulation of political forces that have a European outlook," he said in a Facebook video while visiting Abruzzo.

Di Maio again blamed France for policies in African countries that he said had impeded their growth and fueled the flight of economic migrants to Europe. He also implicitly blamed Paris for the chaos in Libya that has led to years of instability and growth of migrant smuggling networks following France's involvement in the NATO-led operation in 2011 that ousted former Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi from power.

Italian Transport Minister Danilo Toninelli, meanwhile, offered France's yellow vest movement technical advice on launching a version of the 5-Star movement's online portal, which allows registered party members

to vote on policy decisions and candidates. "If useful, we can offer them a hand and do political activities in service of the French people," Toninelli said, according to the ANSA news agency.

As the diplomatic spat simmered, a French yellow vest activist known for his extremist views held a gathering Friday in the Italian city of Sanremo.

The standoff was clearly sending jitters through Europe's business world, given that the two countries are top trading partners and powerhouses of the EU economy. A pressing concern in Italy is the future of struggling national carrier Alitalia, amid rumored interest by Air France in some form of partnership.

Italian opposition leaders seized on a report Friday in business daily Il Sole 24 Ore that the French carrier had

cooled on a deal as a result of the standoff. Di Maio, who is also Italy's economic development minister, pushed back.

"I've been following the Alitalia dossier for months. Air France's enthusiasm hasn't cooled now," he said.

The Italian business lobby Confindustria and its French counterpart Medef wrote to their respective leaders calling for "constructive dialogue" to resolve the dispute, which they warned could threaten Europe's global standing.

"It's necessary that the two historic protagonists of the process of integration don't split, but reconfirm their elements of unity," the presidents of the two groups wrote. Macron and Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte. "Europe is an economic giant and we have to work to make it become a political giant as well." □

Thai princess' political bid sunk by her brother, the king

By GRANT PECK
Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's chaotic politics took two astonishing turns Friday when the sister of the king made a historic bid to become prime minister, only to have him shut down her effort as "inappropriate" because it violated tradition and the constitution, which keep the monarchy from getting involved in politics.

The royal order from King Maha Vajiralongkorn was read on national television late Friday night, effectively scuttling the move by his older sister, Princess Ubolratana Mahidol, to become a candidate for the prime minister's office after parliamentary elections scheduled for March 24.

It was the latest event to roil Thailand, which has been buffeted by coups, political comebacks and street violence for more than a decade.

Ubolratana's registration as a candidate was a stunning move, not only because it would have broken a taboo on a senior royal running for public office, but also because it would have allied her with the Thai Raksa Chart Party, considered to be unsympathetic to the monarchy.

It is one of several par-



In this March 24, 2010, file photo, Thai Princess Ubolratana poses for a photo at the Thai Gala Night in Hong Kong.

Associated Press

ties linked to the political machine of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, a telecommunications billionaire who roared to power in 2001 with populist policies that made him practically unbeatable. The army eventually ousted him from the prime minister's office in a 2006 coup. The turnaround in Ubolratana's fortunes was also seen as startling because the siblings are thought to be close and it was considered unthinkable that Ubolratana would make her move without her brother's permission. What actually had happened behind the scenes is unlikely to be-

come public, because the Thai royal family's private affairs are almost never leaked.

Vajiralongkorn tried to soften the blow by acknowledging that his 67-year-old sister has already relinquished her formal royal titles, and he praised her for conducting charity work and otherwise earning the love of her family and the Thai people.

But his order stressed that Thailand's constitution insists that the king and those around him stay above politics, and the principles of democratic government also put politics off-limits.

"Even though she relin-

quished her title according to royal laws by signing in letter, she still retains her status and position as a member of the Chakri dynasty," the king's order said.

"Bringing high-ranking royal family members to be involved in political system, in any way, is an act that is against the ancient royal protocol and national custom and culture, and is seen as a highly inappropriate act," the statement added.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, the preferred candidate of the military, is considered to be indelibly loyal to the monarchy. He led the 2014 military coup that ousted Thailand's last elected government, which had been backed by Thaksin.

Prayuth had been considered the front-runner for the March election because changes in the constitution and election rules implemented by his government make it difficult for political parties without military backing to capture the prime minister's post.

Thailand also has a draconian lese majeste law which punishes defamation of the immediate royal family with up to 15 years in prison. While it does not technically apply to Ubolratana, who lost her high-

est royal titles when she married an American more than four decades ago, its scope has been widened in recent years to almost anything that sullies the royal institution, making criticism of the princess highly problematical.

Before the king's statement, Ubolratana had issued a statement on Instagram saying she has "no special privileges above the Thai people under the constitution."

"This act of mine, I have done out of sincerity and intention to sacrifice in this request to lead the country to prosperity," she said.

Parliament has had members who were distant relatives of the monarch. Ubolratana falls into a gray area, since she is commonly called a princess and treated as such, despite losing the royal designations after her marriage.

Hours after she was registered as a candidate, a political party supporting Prayuth filed an objection with the Election Commission, arguing that the action broke rules banning the use of the royal institution as part of a political campaign. Several other complaints followed, mostly from conservative royalists, exposing a possible vulnerability in her plans. □

Avalanches, landslides kill 11 people in Himalayan Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — Heavy snow caused avalanches and landslides that killed 11 people and trapped another in the Himalayan region of Kashmir, officials said Friday.

Rescuers cut through mounds of snow to reach 11 people — seven policemen, two firefighters and two prisoners — who were trapped in a fire station in the southern Banihal area overnight, said top police officer S.P. Pani.

They found the bodies of three of the policemen, the two firefighters and the two prisoners, and three policemen were rescued alive, Pani said. He said the rescued men were hospital-



An elderly Kashmiri man pushes his cycle on a snow covered road in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019.

Associated Press

ized while efforts to find the missing policeman continued. Pani said the policemen had taken shelter in

the fire station because it had not been damaged by past avalanches in the mountainous area, where

landslides are common. Elsewhere, a man and his wife died in the southern Kokernag region when an avalanche hit their home Thursday evening, police said. Two other family members were rescued. Officials said a landslide also hit a key highway connecting the Kashmir Valley and Jammu near the southern Ramban region, killing two people.

Dozens were evacuated from high-risk areas following heavy snows that disrupted power and communications as well as air traffic in the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir, while cutting off the Kashmir Valley from India. Authorities

issued a high-danger avalanche warning in many parts of the region.

Last month, 10 workers were killed when an avalanche hit a Himalayan mountain pass bordering China in the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir. Rescuers took about a week to retrieve the bodies. Last year, 11 civilians died in an avalanche near the highly militarized Line of Control that divides Kashmir between Indian and Pakistan-administered areas.

Avalanches also have caused some of the heaviest tolls for the Indian and Pakistani armies camped near the de facto frontier dividing their territories. □

Dreams to tragedy: Fire kills 10 at Brazilian soccer academy

By **PETER PRENGAMAN and MARCELO SILVA DE SOUSA**
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) —

A fire early Friday swept through the sleeping quarters of an academy for Brazil's popular professional soccer club Flamengo, killing 10 people and injuring three, most likely teenage players, authorities said.

Firefighters were called just after 5 a.m. to the sprawling Ninho de Urubu training grounds in Rio de Janeiro's western region. Overhead images captured by an Associated Press drone showed a smoky, charred area of the complex.

"We are distraught," Flamengo President Rodolfo Landim said outside the complex, where friends, fans and neighbors gathered, some in prayer. "This is the worst tragedy to happen to the club in its 123 years."

He did not take questions from reporters who also were outside the complex but added: "The most important thing right now is to minimize the suffering of these families."

The cause of the fire was not known, but Claudio Castro, vice governor of the state of Rio de Janeiro, said authorities were looking at the possibility of a short circuit in an air con-



Debris from the deadly fire at the Flamengo soccer club training complex litters the ground in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Friday, Feb. 8, 2019.

ditioning unit. It is currently summer in Brazil.

In a statement, the city said the area that burned was registered for parking, not as a dormitory. The statement said an investigation into the licensing process was under way.

Latin America's largest nation suffers from shoddy infrastructure, often exacerbated by lax oversight and endemic corruption.

Sebastian Rodriguez, the uncle of one of the players who died, 15-year-old Sam-

uel Thomas Rosa, said his nephew never complained about the conditions.

"He never told me anything bad about the training center," Rodriguez said. "He liked the environment and his teammates there." Rio de Janeiro Mayor Marcelo Crivella ordered three days of mourning, and President Jair Bolsonaro issued a statement lamenting the fire had taken "the young lives at the beginning of pursuing their professional dreams."

Passion for soccer runs deep in Brazil, and as news of the tragedy spread, many of the world's best players and top officials expressed condolences.

"It's a sad day for Brazilian soccer," tweeted Pele, the country's most famous player.

Chapecoense, a team in southern Brazil that lost 22 players in a plane crash in 2016, said on Twitter: "We are extremely sad and shaken by the news of the fire."

Flamengo is perhaps the most famous club in the country, with an estimated 40 million fans nationwide. Supporters are so attached to their academy team that players have a motto for them:

"Flamengo makes legends at home."

Among the most famous players to come through the club are Ronaldinho and Zico, former stars on Brazil's national team; top goal-scorer Adriano, who rose to fame at Inter Milan; and current Real Madrid star Vinicius, Jr., who not long ago was living in the building destroyed by the fire.

The identities of those killed were not released but their names emerged through family members and survivors.

Beatriz Busch, the public health secretary for the state of Rio de Janeiro, said two of the injured were in stable condition while a third was in critical condition. The ages of the injured were 14, 15 and 16, according to a fire official who spoke on condition of anonymity because of agency rules.

Several people who appeared to be relatives entered the complex without speaking to reporters. Some were crying. □

Sierra Leone president declares rape a national emergency

By **CLARENCE ROY-MA-CAULAY**

Associated Press

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone

(AP) — Sierra Leone's president has declared a national emergency over rape and sexual violence, saying perpetrators are getting younger and their acts more violent.

In a keynote address on Thursday, President Julius Maada Bio said hundreds of cases of rape and sexual assault are reported each month in the West African nation against women, girls and babies as young as three months old.

Those who sexually assault minors will face life in prison, the president declared,

saying that some 70 percent of victims are under age 15.

The current law carries a maximum penalty of 15 years, and very few cases have been prosecuted.

"With this declaration, I have also directed the following: that all government hospitals must provide free medical treatment and certificate to every victim of rape and sexual abuse," he said.

Bio's declaration comes after months of campaigning by activists.

Thousands of cases are unreported because of a culture of silence or indifference, leaving victims traumatized, he said, adding

that he wants to increase awareness.

The government will engage communities and civil society in dialogue to end the scourge that is slowly wrecking the nation, the president said.

That will involve addressing gaps in the Sexual Offences Act of 2012, he said.

Bio also ordered the creation of a special police division for rape and sexual violence against minors.

Dr. Olabisi Claudius Cole, head of the Rainbo Initiative that provides free medical and psychosocial services for survivors of gender-based violence, called the president's declaration a landmark in tackling such



In this Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018 file photo, Sierra Leone President Julius Maada Bio addresses the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly, at U.N. headquarters.

Associated Press

violence in Sierra Leone. It had been made possible by the tireless voices of survivors and activists, she

said. First Lady Fatima Bio said all forms of sexual violence are unacceptable and menaces to society. □

Volunteers ready US aid set for Venezuela as Maduro digs in

By CHRISTINE ARMARIO and SCOTT SMITH

Associated Press

CUCUTA, Colombia (AP) —

Dozens of volunteers prepared sacks of rice, canned tuna and protein-rich biscuits for malnourished children at a warehouse on the Colombian border on Friday as Venezuela's opposition vowed to deliver the U.S. humanitarian aid to their troubled nation, even if it means mounting a mass mobilization of their countrymen to carry it in.

As the food and hygiene kits were packed into individual white bags in the city of Cucuta, just across the river from Venezuela, U.S. officials and Venezuelan opposition leaders appealed to the military to let the aid through.

Lester Toledo, who is representing opposition leader Juan Guaido in the aid mission, issued a message to troops, telling them the aid contains food and medicine their own families need. He recalled how in 2016, a large group of Venezuelan women dressed in white and intent on crossing the closed border with Colombia made their way through a line of national guardsmen in order to buy food on the other side.

"I am convinced that the way we are going to pass



A Venezuelan volunteer places a bag of USAID humanitarian aid for storage at a warehouse next to the Tienditas International Bridge, near Cucuta, Colombia, on the border with Venezuela, Friday, Feb. 8, 2019.

this aid is with the Venezuelan people," Toledo said at a press event unveiling the aid. "People, people and more people bringing in humanitarian aid."

The emergency supplies have become the focus of Venezuela's political struggle between President Nicolas Maduro and Guaido, who declared interim presidential powers in late January, accusing Maduro of being illegitimate following an election last year widely viewed as a sham. The Venezuelan military has blocked the bridge where

the aid is stationed and Maduro is refusing to allow it in.

The embattled Venezuelan leader dug in further Friday, contending the aid is part of a coup being orchestrated by the U.S. government. "There's an attempt to violate our national sovereignty with this 'show' of a humanitarian operation by the government of Donald Trump," he said.

The goods, including packaged corn flour, lentils and pasta, arrived Thursday in what the opposition is hoping will be the first of many

shipments of humanitarian aid from countries around the world.

Opposition leaders said three countries in the region will become aid hubs and that some nations, like Colombia, will likely have more than one collection site.

The first shipment includes food kits for 5,000 Venezuelans and high-protein nutritional supplements that can treat an estimated 6,700 young children with moderate malnutrition.

Additional aid is being stored in Miami and Hous-

Associated Press

ton and "ready to be deployed to the region immediately," the U.S. said in a statement.

"We expect more to come," U.S. Ambassador to Colombia Kevin Whitaker said. "This is a down payment."

Asked what would happen if the Venezuelan military blocks the aid from going in, Whitaker said any obstacles would be dealt with as they arise and reiterated that Trump has made clear nothing is off the table — though, he added, the priority is to arrange a broad international mission.

Whitaker said the U.S. involvement stops at the Colombian border, where the Guaido-led opposition will be charged with distributing the aid inside Venezuela, a seemingly tall task as Maduro shows no signs of conceding.

Opposition leader Jose Manuel Olivares, who is in Cucuta helping coordinate the aid mission, said the idea floated by Toledo to use a mass mobilization of people to get the aid across the border is one of the strategies being considered.

"The aid is going to be backed by popular support, by hundreds and thousands of people who need it," he said. □

Ex-Miss Costa Rica is latest to accuse Arias of sexual abuse

By JAVIER CORDOBA, Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) —

A former Miss Costa Rica has become the second woman to make a criminal complaint against Nobel Peace Prize laureate and ex-President Oscar Arias, in the latest of mounting allegations of sexual misconduct to emerge this week. The woman alleges that Arias grabbed her, groped her and kissed her against her will at his home in 2015, according to partial photos of the complaint published late Thursday by Escribe-Viendo, a Facebook page dedicated to entertainment news. Prosecutors con-



In this Nov. 13, 2015 file photo, Costa Rican 1987 Nobel peace laureate and former president of Costa Rica, Oscar Arias, looks at the media during the opening ceremony of the XV World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates at the University in Barcelona, Spain.

Associated Press

firmed its existence Friday, telling The Associated Press they had "received a new

complaint against Mr. Arias Sanchez for the presumed crime of sexual abuse. The

case accrues to the complaint filed Monday since it involves a single accused person and apparent crimes of the same nature." At least five women have accused Arias of actions ranging from unwelcome fondling or sexual innuendo to sexual assault. In the first criminal complaint, the former president is accused of groping, kissing and penetrating a female peace activist with his fingers at his home in 2014. Arias denied wrongdoing after the initial complaint surfaced, saying he has never violated any woman's will and has fought for gender equality during his career. As more

allegations emerged, his lawyer Erick Ramos has declined to comment further, citing the pending legal case. According to the partial images of the second complaint, the woman was invited to Arias' home during Easter Week 2015 after he had sent her friend requests on Facebook and offered her a copy of a book he wrote. Escribe-Viendo also posted an image of the book's title page with a handwritten inscription to her signed in Arias' name. AP policy is not to name alleged victims of sexual crimes or abuse unless they choose to identify themselves publicly. □

LOCAL



It's Carnival!

While the official opening of the carnival season took off with the Torch Parade at January 5, the island caught the carnival fever and since then entered a series of carnival events that go on until March 3. What has been past weekend and week: the Grand Tumba Contest, the Children & Youth Calypso & Roadmarch Contest and the Pre-Finals of the Caiso & Soca Monarch. Coming up this afternoon and tonight: the Children's Parade Noord starting at Bubali Shopping Center and the Grand Final Caiso & Soca Monarch in San Nicolas Carnival Village.

The island is known for its white-sanded beaches and perfect climate, but there is one time in the year that Aruba draws thousands of visitors: carnival. If you have never been here before, come in carnival season as your experience will be amazing. Sensational musical events, queen elections and different parades are all part of this spectacular phenomenon. Carnival is part of Aruba's history and cultural heritage, actually it is the largest cultural festival on the island. For the islanders it is a way to express their creativity and break away from the daily buzz of life. Dancing to the rhythm of local music while enjoying the ambiance of the public are some of the ingredients of this festival. Oranjestad and San Nicolas are the stages for this display of unique designed costumes, amazing ambience and upbeat, local music. The festival is for everybody accessible and safe to visit. Behind the screens there is an enormous organization that makes sure that this festival runs smoothly. The police, inspection department, Red Cross volunteers, garbage service and many others work day and night to make sure that carnival is a success. All the trailers are being carefully inspected before they are

allowed to participate as well as the vehicles that pull them. After each parade the streets are being cleaned and road blocks are being taken away so next day normal traffic flow occurs. The several organizations and institutions work together with the official carnival organization SMAC.

What's Been

Last weekend we had the Grand Tumba Contest going on. Music is essential for carnival and the carnival songs contest is called Tumbo for the adults and Tumberito for the children. The lyrics of the songs must relate to carnival and come with humor and satire linked to island events. The Children & Youth Calypso & Roadmarch Contest is the mini version of the festival that's on for tonight. The youth takes the stage in this contest to battle for the best song.

Coming Up

At Noord the Children's Parade takes off this afternoon. Amazing creative costumes and dancing kids on uplifting music are the ingredients of this entertaining parade. You must have a look! Something that is taken very serious in the island is the election of the Caiso & Soca Monarch. The island's greatest music creators go head to head in an epic musical battle. Only one will be crowned Soca Monarch and only one will reign as Calypso Monarch. And in the end there will be only one Road March Champion. The festival starts tonight at 7 PM at Carnival Village in San Nicolas.

History

In the 1920's the first carnival events were organized by social clubs that started private costume and masquerade parties. This year

we celebrate Aruba's 65th carnival, which means that the first grand parade took place in 1955. Since then Aruba's carnival has grown big and is now able to stand shoulder to shoulder with the most renowned Carnival celebrations around the world. Aruba Today has put the coming carnival events for you in a row:

- February 9 – Children's Parade in Noord – Noon
- February 9 – Final Caiso & Soca Monarch in Carnival Village – 7:00 PM
- February 15 – La Ora Loca Jump Up in St. Cruz 8:00 PM
- February 17 – Transfer of command at Government Main Office – 10:00 AM
- February 17 – Grand Children's Carnival Parade in Oranjestad – 1:00 PM
- February 23 – Jouvert Morning & Pyjama Party in San Nicolas – 3:00 am
- February 23 – Aruba's Grand Lighting Parade in Oranjestad – 8:00 PM
- February 24 – Grand Children's Parade in San Nicolas – 1:00 PM
- February 24 – Buring of Momito in Carnival Village – 7:30 PM
- February 28 – Lighting Parade in San Nicolas – 8:00 PM
- March 1 – Hebbe Hebbe Music Festival parking lot Post Office – 8:00 PM
- March 2 – Grand Carnival Parade in San Nicolas – 10:00 AM
- March 3 – 65th Grand Carnival Parade in Oranjestad – 10:00 AM
- March 3 – Burning of King Momo (ending of Grand Parade) 8:00 PM

For more information you can visit Facebook page SMAC, the official carnival organization. □

It's A Wrap



ORANJESTAD — Aruba Today has launched its very first video of the series 'Ask Pilar' at Facebook Aruba Today and on our website www.arubatoday.com about two months ago. Let us introduce to you this fresh new project and the people behind it.

Why a video? Besides our daily printed free newspaper, our posts on Facebook and Instagram and our website content we started evaluating the plans for short video's about a year ago. The concept was created by Editor-in-Chief Linda Reijnders to add variation to the product Aruba Today. "There is more to this island than palm trees and beaches and in our videos we wish to inform and educate the visitor by showing local places of any kind. We are all new to this, but goal is not to deliver a technical perfect result, moreover motivate with the content and topic as well as the good energy coming from it." Aruba Today will publish two or more videos per week and the concept will be interactive. Meaning that as the title of the video 'Ask Pilar' already reveals, the viewer has the tool to actually ask about the topics shown or maybe even suggest a location/topic for a video. Just ask our host Pilar through Facebook comments or messenger.

THE TEAM

Pilar Flores, 33 years old, is the jolly Video Host of 'Ask Pilar'. She loves doing the videos because she gets to meet a lot of nice people and to know many interesting places. "I hope with it that people will get to know and love Aruba the way us

locals do." Flores is Executive Editor at Bon Dia Newspaper, Aruba Today's sister, where she is fond of being up to date on all current happenings and events and having the inside information. She has a Bachelor of Theology, achieved in Aberdeen, Scotland and a Masters of Applied Ethics in Utrecht, The Netherlands. "In my leisure time I like to walk in Arikok National park, play with my three cats, color and spend time with my boyfriend." The one capturing the images with his camera and edit them into the end result is our Videographer Juan Luis Pinto Sotter, Marketing Major at the University of Aruba. "I chose marketing because I wanted a career that kept me physically and mentally active. As a junior



marketer there is a lot of moving around, I can't begin to imagine what the real world will be like." His hobbies include photography, gaming, and working on his car. "I am not a car mechanic, however YouTube helps a lot and I find it very therapeutic to put everything aside and work on this piece of metal that helps me move long distances." Juan Luis loves to capture moments with his camera and edit them into a dynamic video. Video Director of 'Ask Pilar' is Editor-in-Chief Linda Reijnders, working in this current position since July 2017 and before that for six years

with the local newspaper in Dutch, Amigoe di Aruba as a journalist and Editor-in-Chief of the magazine H&H. "I love working in the media, I love to write, create, connect, inform and educate. Working with young, talented and motivated people like Juan Luis and Pilar is a blessing to me. We really enjoy making these Aruba Peeks and we for sure hope that rubs off to the viewer." Check us out on Facebook Aruba Today or the website www.arubatoday.com and do not forget to like and share! Thank you for your support. □



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Honoring of an Emerald Ambassador at the Barcelo Aruba

PALM BEACH — Recently, Darline de Cuba of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitor as Emerald Ambassador. The Emerald Ambassador award is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 20 years and more consecutively.

The honoree is Mr. Michael Chmiel resident of Cranford New Jersey. Chmiel stated that he loves the island very much, he has many Aruban friends & family and he stayed at almost every hotel on the island. To him Aruba is his home.

De Cuba together with a member of Barcelo Aruba, Natalia Sanchez, presented the certificate to the honoree, and also handed over some presents and thanked him for choosing Aruba as his favorite vacation destination and as his home away from home. □



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For today's newspaper we received a great picture from

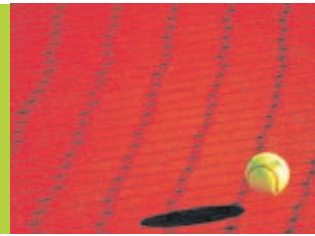
from Rita van Steensburg. She wrote:

*Aruba to me is...
Living the Dream on the Happy Island of Aruba*

The lovely couple spends a couple of months here during January, February and March. Each year they fall more and more in love with this Island and its people. For them it is truly their home away from home. □



SPORTS



In this Nov. 18, 2007, file photo, Jimmie Johnson, left, pours champagne on crew chief Chad Knaus as they celebrate after winning the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series championship, in Homestead, Fla.

Associated Press

Architect of Jimmie Johnson's success starting over in 2019

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.

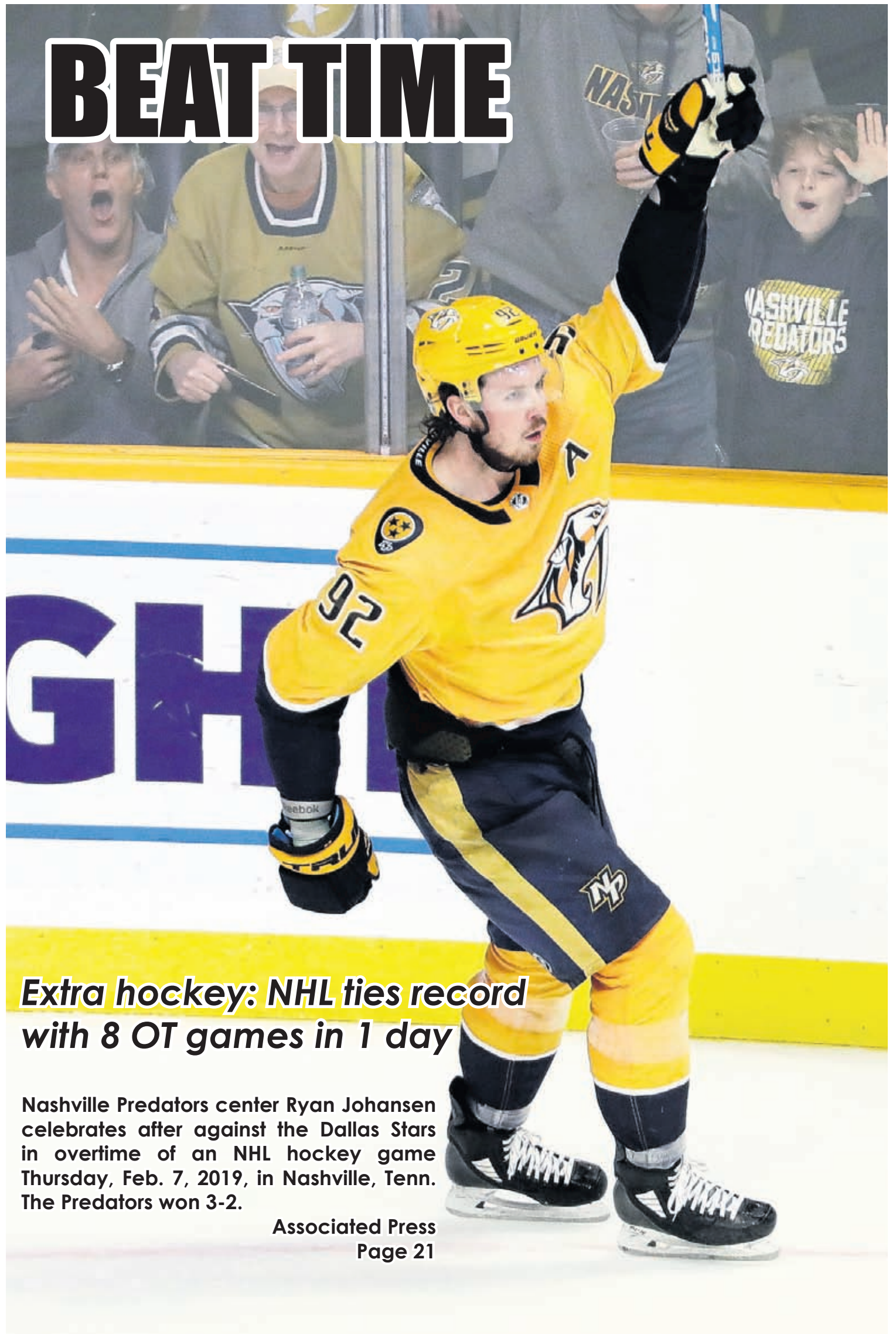
(AP) — Chad Knaus got his first big break at Hendrick Motorsports when he was picked to build a team from scratch around a rookie driver who had yet to prove he belonged at NASCAR's top level.

The driver was Jimmie Johnson.

Once Johnson was paired with Knaus as crew chief, the duo took off and won a record-tying seven championships as the No. 48 team blossomed into one of the best in NASCAR history. Despite a 17-year friendship and all their success, the strain of underperforming last year was the final push toward their split. Their chance to race for a record eighth Cup title together is gone and each has new roles. Johnson will at last be the leader of the No. 48, a job he never had sole possession of under Knaus.

Continued on Page 23

BEAT TIME



Extra hockey: NHL ties record with 8 OT games in 1 day

Nashville Predators center Ryan Johansen celebrates after against the Dallas Stars in overtime of an NHL hockey game Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, in Nashville, Tenn. The Predators won 3-2.

Associated Press
Page 21

Holdener retains Alpine combined title at skiing worlds

By STEVE DOUGLAS

AP Sports Writer

ARE, Sweden (AP) — Everything fell into place for Wendy Holdener.

Her two biggest challengers — Mikaela Shiffrin and Michelle Gisin — weren't competing in the Alpine combined at the skiing world championships. Then the downhill portion of the event was shortened because of poor visibility, giving slalom specialists like Holdener a crucial advantage.

The Swiss racer just needed to nail her two runs to successfully defend the world title she won in St. Moritz in 2017. She did exactly that, but only just.

Fifth after the downhill portion, Holdener was tied with Petra Vlhova under the floodlights after the third checkpoint in the slalom leg. Holdener then made up ground in the final stretch to edge Vlhova by 0.03 seconds and retain what may prove to be the last-ever combined title.

For the 25-year-old Holdener, the win was especially satisfying after achieving 20 podiums in World Cup



Wendy Holdener speeds down the course during the slalom portion of the women's combined, at the alpine ski World Championships in Are, Sweden, Friday, Feb. 8, 2019.

slalom races without getting a victory.

"Finally I could put two good runs together and bring home the victory," she said. "It's the right time." Ragnhild Mowinckel of Norway was third, 0.45 seconds behind Holdener. Holdener, who also won the team event at last year's Pyeongchang Olympics, has now earned gold medals at three straight

major championships. She is the fifth woman to win back-to-back world titles in the combined.

Holdener was in a good position after a clean run in the downhill, with only Ramona Siebenhofer, Ilka Stuhec and then Mowinckel ahead of her. Corinne Suter was in fourth place but decided to skip the slalom.

Unheralded Canadian

skier Roni Remme went off at No. 3 in the slalom and held the lead until Vlhova — eighth after the downhill — moved into first.

Holdener went two skiers later and started with an advantage of 0.30 seconds over Vlhova. That was soon wiped out in a little over 36 seconds. But to the backdrop of cowbells and loud cheers by Swiss fans near the finish, Holdener clawed

Associated Press

it back and stretched at the line to win.

The winner of the event is determined by adding the times from one high-speed downhill run and one shorter slalom leg.

Shiffrin, who won the super-G, skipped the combined to save energy for the slalom and giant slalom. She would have been the overwhelming favorite. Gisin, the Olympic combined champion, was ruled out after she hurt her knee in a World Cup super-G race in Garmisch-Partenkirchen last month.

With seven skiers — including Lindsey Vonn — choosing not to take part in the slalom leg, the field was reduced to 26 competitors.

It further damages an event that is already under threat as the International Ski Federation decides on the future of Alpine skiing's original Olympic discipline, which was introduced at the 1936 Winter Games.

FIS could replace Alpine combined with parallel slalom racing at future Olympics and world championships. The men's combined is on Monday. □

Ski chief urged to quit over climate comment

By EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

DENVER (AP) — A group of winter-sports athletes and the world's biggest snowboard maker want the president of the International Ski Federation to resign after he spoke of "so-called climate change" and said he would rather deal with dictators than argue with environmentalists. The climate advocacy group Protect Our Winters sent an open letter Friday urging 75-year-old Gian-Franco Kasper to step aside.

In an interview with the Swiss newspaper Tages-Anzeiger, Kasper said "dictators can organize (big) events ... without asking the people's permission" and that "from the business side, I say: I just want to go to dictatorships, I do not want to argue with



In this Feb. 19, 2017, file photo, Gian Franco Kasper, president of the International Ski Federation, speaks during a press conference in St. Moritz, Switzerland.

environmentalists." He also referenced "so-called" climate change, and when challenged on that, responded "We have snow, sometimes very much." He pointed to frigid temperatures at last year's Pyeongchang Olympics.

"To anyone shuddering toward me, I said: Welcome to the global warming," Kasper told the newspaper. Kasper subsequently apologized for his comments, saying they were not meant to be taken literally. When reached by The As-

Associated Press

sociated Press via email, FIS officials said they had no further comment.

Protect Our Winters is a nonprofit formed in 2007 to combat climate change. Several dozen athletes are part of the alliance, which also includes scientists and business leaders.

In their open letter, which also included a link for people to add their name to the call for Kasper's resignation, POW said the Tages-Anzeiger story "confirms what insiders in FIS meetings have told us for years: that the leadership of the organization is unwilling to acknowledge scientific evidence that threatens the entire snow industry."

POW refers to studies that document the rapid decline of European glaciers, and to economic analysis that shows seasons with be-

low-average snowfall lead to "decreased value added" of more than \$1 billion and 17,400 fewer jobs.

"When we saw that, from our perspective, it was unacceptable to have anyone in a position of leadership in the snow-sport industry denying climate change," POW executive director Mario Molina told AP.

POW also decided to not accept a \$10,500 donation it was set to receive Sunday from U.S. Ski and Snowboard through its volunteers, coaches, and athletes.

"As a sign of respect for them and the action they want to support, we are declining that donation and asking instead that Gian Franco Kasper be removed from his position," the open letter said. □

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Whittaker meets Gastelum, Adesanya takes on Silva at UFC 234

By **GREG BEACHAM**
AP Sports Writer

Israel Adesanya can already imagine fighting Robert Whittaker for the UFC middleweight title later this year in a huge stadium full of roaring Australian fans.

To make the dream happen, these two Australasian fighters must get past two major obstacles at UFC 234 in Melbourne this weekend. Before Whittaker (20-4) defends his belt against American contender Kelvin Gastelum (15-3) in the main event, Adesanya (15-0) gets the biggest fight of his life against Anderson Silva (34-8), the Brazilian mixed martial arts trailblazer.

Four of the world's best 185-pounders will be showcased atop the card at Rod Laver Arena, but two are fighting closer to home. Adesanya was born in Nigeria before moving to New Zealand as a teenager, and Whittaker is a New Zealand-born Australian.

Although Adesanya is 17 months older than Whittaker, he is considered one of the UFC's most tantalizing title contenders, with a spectacular fighting style that reminds many of the 43-year-old Silva in his prime. Even after Silva's recent losing streak and doping problems, Adesanya is grateful for the opportunity to go up against a giant.

"I saw the odds this week, and I was like, 'Man, y'all must have forgot,'" Adesanya said. "You don't know that man over there, Anderson Silva. I think a lot of you new fans

weren't around during his reign. What it felt like. You might have come around the Rousey era or the Mc-

week that the winner of Silva's showdown with Adesanya will get the next title shot against the winner of

The Spider served a one-year doping ban during his time out of the cage, but he wants to fight on despite

but the famed tennis stadium still sold out in minutes after the announcement of the two big middleweight fights.

The main event is a compelling challenge for the soft-spoken, hard-hitting Whittaker, who claimed the interim middleweight belt nearly two years ago and was promoted to full champion after Georges St. Pierre beat Michael Bisping and vacated the belt. Whittaker is the first Australian champion in UFC history, and he is fighting in Melbourne for the third time in just over three years.

But he has fought just once since winning his interim title, struggling with a knee injury and a staph infection. With his health woes behind him,

Whittaker has a chance to assert himself as one of the UFC's top pound-for-pound stars with a victory over Gastelum, who has lost just once in six bouts over the past three years.

"Kelvin is the biggest hurdle in my way, and he's a true test," Whittaker said.

"He's going to be a true test of my character and my abilities. I look forward to learning something from it and growing."

Gastelum, who spent time around Whittaker last year as coaches on the UFC's long-running reality competition show, knows he'll be the underdog among oddsmakers and the Australian fans.

"People didn't like me for my entire career," Gastelum said. "This isn't a surprise to me." □



In this June 10, 2018, file photo, Robert Whittaker reacts after his middleweight mixed martial arts title bout against Yoel Romero at UFC 225 in Chicago.

Associated Press

Gregor era, but you don't realize who this guy is. He brought me into this game. This guy inspired me to believe a skinny black guy can just come in here and (beat) everyone up.

"He brought me into this game, and for me, it'll be an honor to take him out of the game."

UFC President Dana White confirmed earlier in the

Whittaker's bout with Gastelum.

That means Silva is one win away from improbably fighting to reclaim the belt he held from 2006 to 2013, winning 16 straight fights in the process.

Silva hasn't fought in two years since a victory over Derek Brunson in early 2017 ended his five-fight winless streak.

the worries of his family.

"He's a great talent," Silva said of Adesanya. "He has a great future in this sport, so I'm very lucky to come here and fight. It's a good challenge for me, but I believe it's a big challenge for Israel."

UFC 234 takes place Sunday afternoon to fit into the Saturday night pay-per-view window in the U.S.,

Lakers edge Celtics 129-128 on Rondo's jumper at the buzzer

By The Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Rajon Rondo hit a 20-foot jumper as time expired to lift the Los Angeles Lakers over the Boston Celtics, 129-128 on Thursday night.

LeBron James had 28 points, 12 rebounds and 12 assists. Kyle Kuzma added 25 points and Rondo had 17 points and 10 assists to help Los Angeles bounce back after a 42-point loss

at Indiana on Tuesday.

Rondo was in the right place at the right time for his final shot against the team he won an NBA title with in 2008. Brandon Ingram had his layup attempt blocked by Al Horford, but Horford whiffed on the rebound and the ball bounced into Rondo's hands.

Kyrie Irving led Boston with 24 points and eight assists. Jayson Tatum added 22



Los Angeles Lakers guard Rajon Rondo, middle, celebrates his game-winning shot with teammates LeBron James (23) and Kyle Kuzma (0), in an NBA basketball game against the Boston Celtics, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, in Boston.

Associated Press

points and 10 rebounds. Daniel Theis has 20 points off the bench but the Celtics had a five-game win streak snapped.

THUNDER 117, GRIZZLIES 95

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Russell Westbrook had his eighth straight triple-double, and Oklahoma City rolled past depleted Memphis. Westbrook finished with 15 points, 15 assists and 13 rebounds. He now has the longest triple-double streak of his career and is one short of Wilt Chamberlain's NBA record of nine straight set in 1968.

Paul George scored 27 points and Jerami Grant added 20 for Oklahoma City, which has won nine of 10. Jaren Jackson Jr. scored 27 points for the Grizzlies, who were reeling from the news that franchise cornerstone Marc Gasol was traded to the Raptors for three players.

RAPTORS 119, HAWKS 101

ATLANTA (AP) — Pascal Siakam scored a career-high 33 points, Fred VanVleet added a career-best 30 and Toronto rallied after trailing by 17 points in the first half to beat Atlanta. The Raptors were short-handed after trading four players in two deals before the trade deadline. They used only nine players and relied heavily on Siakam,

who also had 13 rebounds, and VanVleet with All-Star Kawhi Leonard resting.

Rookie Trae Young and Taurean Price each had 19 points for Atlanta.

Toronto, which began the night two games behind Eastern Conference leader Milwaukee, acquired center Marc Gasol from Memphis before Thursday's trade deadline for Jonas Valanciunas, C.J. Miles and Delon Wright.

TRAIL BLAZERS 127, SPURS 118

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — CJ McCollum had 30 points, including seven 3-pointers, and the Trail Blazers handed the Spurs their third straight loss.

Damian Lillard added 24 points and nine assists for the Blazers, who were coming off a loss at home to Miami but have won seven of their last nine games overall. It was the second straight game that McCollum has had seven 3s, which match his career high. With his second 3-pointer, McCollum passed Terry Porter for third on Portland's all-time list. DeMar DeRozan had 35 points for the Spurs, who were playing the third game of an extended road trip because of the rodeo visiting AT&T Center.

PACERS 116, CLIPPERS 92

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Bo-

jan Bogdanovic had 29 points and seven rebounds to lead Indiana over short-handed Los Angeles.

Myles Turner had 17 points and six blocked shots, while Thaddeus Young and Darren Collison each scored 14 points for the Pacers, who won their fourth consecutive game.

Montrezl Harrell had 19 points and Danilo Gallinari had 12 points and five rebounds for the Clippers, who have a roster in transition after the NBA's trade deadline.

The Pacers scored 13 straight during a 17-2 run late in the second quarter to pull away.

MAGIC 122, TIMBERWOLVES 112

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Terrence Ross scored 32 points and came up with a big defensive play to help Orlando beat Minnesota.

Ross came off the bench to make six 3-pointers and 13-of-23 shots overall.

Nikola Vucevic added 21 points, Aaron Gordon 19 and Evan Fournier 18 for Orlando, which shot 54 percent and scored a season-high 71 points in the first half. Karl-Anthony Towns had 27 points and 11 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who lost for the fifth time in six games. Andrew Wiggins added 23 points. □

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Capitals beat struggling Avalanche 4-3 in overtime

By The Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — Evgeny Kuznetsov scored in overtime, backup Pheonix Copley made 34 saves and the Washington Capitals beat Colorado 4-3 on Thursday night to hand struggling Avalanche their fifth consecutive loss. The Avalanche have lost 10 of their past 12 games and are the NHL's worst team since Dec. 7. Colorado is 5-15-4 in that time, going from tied for the most points in the Western Conference to out of a playoff position. Semyon Varlamov stopped 38 shots, but gave up rebounds and loose pucks all night. Varlamov couldn't control power-play shots from former Capitals teammate and countryman Alex Ovechkin, allowing Kuznetsov to score his first goal on a tap-in and getting a break on an early whistle on what would have been a goal by Nicklas Backstrom. Kuznetsov beat Varlamov on a break-away with 48 seconds left in overtime to end it. In the third period, Matt Niskanen scored on a shot from the boards. Varlamov has the second-worst save percentage since Dec. 7 — ahead of only teammate Philipp Grubauer. Andre Burakovsky also scored for Washington. The defending Stanley Cup champion Capitals have won two in a row after losing eight of their previous nine. Nathan MacKinnon, Mikko Rantanen and Colin Wilson scored for Colorado, with Wilson tying it with 2:07 left.

KINGS 3, FLYERS 2, SO
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Tyler Toffoli scored the deciding goal in a shootout and Los Angeles ended Philadelphia's winning streak at eight games. Jonathan Quick made 30 saves, and Adrian Kempe and Austin Wagner scored in regulation to help Los Angeles win its third straight and fourth in five games. Philadelphia's Jakub Voracek scored with 18.2 seconds left in regulation. Sean Couturier also scored for the Flyers.

BLACKHAWKS 4, CANUCKS 3, OT

CHICAGO (AP) — Jonathan Toews scored 3:21 into

points of Calgary for the Pacific Division lead. Mark Jankowski and TJ Brodie scored for Calgary.

Carey Price made 32 saves for his seventh consecutive victory. Danault also had three as-

win for the seventh time in 10 games (7-1-2).

Kevin Rooney scored for New Jersey, and Cory Schneider was outstanding in his first game in almost two months, making 27 saves.

HURRICANES 6, SABRES 5, OT

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Teuvo Teravainen scored his second goal of the game 3:25 into overtime, and Curtis McElhinney stopped 34 shots to help Carolina beat Buffalo.

Brock McGinn Greg McEgg, Justin Faulk and Nino Niederreiter also scored for Carolina. The Hurricanes are 12-4-1 in their past 17 games to jump from a tie for 15th in the East to sole possession of ninth.

Jeff Skinner scored his 32nd and 33rd goals for Buffalo, and Jason Pominville, Evan Rodrigues and Marco Scandella added goals.

BLUES 1, LIGHTNING 0, OT
TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Brayden Schenn scored with 58.2 seconds left in overtime and rookie Jordan Binnington made 32 saves to help St. Louis beat Tampa Bay for its fourth straight victory. Schenn skated in from the left wing boards and beat Andrei Vasilevskiy.

PREDATORS 3, STARS 2, OT
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Ryan Johansen scored 43 seconds into overtime and Nashville beat Dallas.

Viktor Arvidsson had a goal and an assist, and Craig Smith also scored for Nashville. Taylor Fedun and Miro Heiskanen scored for Dallas. The Stars had won a season-best five straight.

OILERS 4, WILD 1

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Darnell Nurse gave reeling Edmonton an early boost by scoring 2:15 into the first period, and the Oilers stopped a six-game losing streak with a victory over Minnesota that sent the Wild to their fourth straight loss.

Ty Rattie, Leon Draisaitl and Zack Kassian also scored, Connor McDavid and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins each had two assists, and Cam Talbot made 35 saves for the Oilers.

Joel Eriksson Ek scored for Minnesota. □



Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8), of Russia, shoots in front of Colorado Avalanche left wing J.T. Compher (37) during the second period of an NHL hockey game, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, in Washington.

Associated Press

overtime to lift Chicago past Vancouver for its season-high sixth straight victory. Alex DeBrincat scored twice before Toews ended it with his 24th goal to cap a flashy individual effort. Chicago's captain skated in from the blue line, slipped past Christopher Tanev with a quick move and snapped a shot past goalie Jacob Markstrom. Vancouver rookie Elias Pettersson scored a power-play goal with Markstrom pulled for an extra attacker to tie it with 1:52 left.

Brandon Saad also scored for Chicago, Dylan Strome had three assists, and Collin Delia made 40 saves. Patrick Kane had an assist to extend his points streak to 13 games.

Alex Biega and Josh Leivo added goals for the Canucks.

SHARKS 5, FLAMES 2

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Evander Kane scored twice and added an assist in San Jose's victory over Calgary. Tomas Hertl also scored twice, and Brent Burns added a goal, and Martin Jones made 36 saves. The Sharks have won four straight to move within two

The Flames lost at home in regulation for the first time in nine games. Mike Smith took the loss after stopping 16 in relief after David Rittich was pulled in the first period. After Calgary opened the scoring on Jankowski's goal at 4:36 of the first period, the Sharks scored on three straight shots in a 1:25 span. Kane tied it at 12:39 when he spun and sent a shot on net that dribbled through Rittich's pads. Rittich then raced to a loose puck, but fired it straight into Burns, who skated in by himself and slid it into the vacated net. That was the end of the night for Rittich after allowing two goals on six shots. It didn't start off any better for Smith, who was beaten by Hertl on a deflection 22 seconds after entering the game.

CANADIENS 5, JETS 2

MONTREAL (AP) — Jonathan Drouin had two goals and two assists for his first four-point game and Montreal beat Winnipeg for its third straight victory.

Captain Shea Weber, Phillip Danault and Jesperi Kotkaniemi also scored to help the Canadiens improve to 8-1-1 in their last 10 games.

sists for a four-point game, and Kotkaniemi has scored in four consecutive games. Montreal jumped ahead of Boston into third place in the Atlantic Division, one point behind Toronto.

Mark Scheifele and Brendan Lemieux scored, and Connor Hellebuyck stopped 48 shots for Winnipeg.

PANTHERS 3, PENGUINS 2, OT

SUNRISE, Fla. (AP) — Mike Matheson scored 4:14 into overtime to lift Florida past Pittsburgh.

Evgenii Dadonov and Colton Sceviour also scored for the Panthers, and Aleksander Barkov had two assists. Roberto Luongo made 29 saves to help Florida win for the seventh time in nine games.

Marcus Pettersson and Jared McCann scored for the Penguins.

ISLANDERS 2, DEVILS 1, SO

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Josh Bailey scored in the fourth round of the shootout, Thomas Greiss made 30 saves and New York beat New Jersey to sweep the four-game season series.

Mathew Barzal scored in regulation to help New York

Wild finish for Mickelson, wet one for Spieth at Pebble

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP)

— Phil Mickelson survived a wild finish without having to deal with the rain. Jordan Spieth endured a wet finish to his day with three tough pars, followed by some unwitting help by a spooked fan.

Both were atop the leaderboard Friday in the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, joined by Lucas Glover, Paul Casey and Scott Langley, when the second round was suspended because the rain had formed large puddles on the greens.

They played more golf than expected by moving up the start by an hour, and it was entertaining as ever.

One day after Mickelson didn't miss a single fairway for the first time in 1,664 rounds on the PGA Tour, he couldn't seem to find one at Spyglass Hill. He still managed to surge into the lead, including one 3-wood from 256 yards out of the trees on the par-5 14th to 6 feet.

It caught up with him at the end. After banging in a birdie on the par-3 fifth, Mickelson missed three straight fairways that led to three straight bogeys until he closed with a 4-iron to 18 feet for birdie and a 4-under 68.

"I hate not finishing the round off, making three bogeys after having a pretty good round going in," Mickelson said. "I'm also



Phil Mickelson follows his drive from the 11th tee of the Spyglass Hill Golf Course during the second round of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament Friday, Feb. 8, 2019, in Pebble Beach, Calif.

lucky to get done now and get the round over with and have ... guys unfortunately are still out there playing in some tough stuff."

Mickelson was the first to finish at 10-under 133. Glover started strong in tame weather at Pebble Beach and shot a 6-under 66 to get to 10-under 134, while Langley (69 at Spyglass Hill) and Casey (7-under 64 at Monterey Peninsula) narrowly finished at 10-under 133 ahead of the horn that ultimately stopped play for the rest of the day.

Three short blasts signaled the stoppage, but because it wasn't a dangerous situation, such as lightning, play-

ers could complete the hole.

Casey was on his final hole at Monterey when he heard the horn, followed by two more.

"I went from upset to happy in an instant," he said.

Spieth was among 44 players who had to return Saturday morning — weather permitting — to finish the last two holes of his round. Part of him was happy to be off the course considering the fight he had on his hand in cold, raw rain with increasing wind.

Spieth shot 31 on the back nine at Spyglass Hill to get in the mix, and missed two good birdie chances to

start the front nine.

"I got off to a really nice start, which helped, knowing that the conditions were blowing in, trying to take advantage of the front nine," he said.

"And then once they started to come in, it was just try and hold on for dear life."

He went just long of the green on the par-3 fifth hole, his ball in the sandy dune above the green about 3 inches from the collar of rough with not much green between him and the hole. Spieth blasted out to 4 feet and saved par.

After coming up short on the uphill sixth into the wind, his 40-yard pitch checked

and stopped a foot from the cup. And then he had another struggle on the par-5 seventh, hitting out from under a tree, over another one and threw the fairway. His third shot was just right of the green, and Spieth immediately called for a ruling when he saw a fan's hand swat the ball onto the green.

By the time they got that sorted out, the rain was coming down harder and workers had to use a squeegee — twice — to clear off the standing water. Spieth two-putted for par.

A minute later, the rain kept falling and Johnson had to have the green cleared for his putt.

Johnson, who had hit his second shot into the water, missed from 10 feet for bogey. He missed from inside 3 feet for par on the previous hole, and missed another 3-footer on No. 3. He was 2 over for his round, seven shots to par behind. "Not a good day on the greens," Johnson said as he walked away, sounding like someone who had one of those days before.

Two of the fairways Mickelson missed on the front nine were on par 5s, one leading to par, the other a bogey.

He needed to avoid the water left of the seventh green and pulled it too much into the trees, came up short of the green and hit a poor chip, missing the putt. □

Parnevik shoots 63 for 1-shot lead in Oasis Championship

BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP)

— Jesper Parnevik shot a 9-under 63 on Friday in the Oasis Championship to take a one-stroke lead over Bernhard Langer.

Parnevik had four straight birdies on Nos. 4-7 on his final nine on The Old Course at Broken Sound. The 53-year-old Swede won the 2016 Insuperity Invitational for his lone PGA Tour Champions victory.

He took the first-round lead a day after going into "panic mode" while strug-

gling with his game.

"I probably tried 40 putters just this week and probably 50 different strokes," Parnevik said. "Nothing was working. At the last second, I said I'll do everything opposite from what I think. If I slide my hips like crazy, I feel like I'm hanging back, bam, that works. So I did that, which felt like terrible, but man, it was unbelievable. Man, I'm mostly shocked right now."

Langer closed with birdies on Nos. 17 and 18.

"It's a three-day event," Langer said. "You can't afford to have a mediocre day somewhere. You need three good rounds if you want to win the tournament. I played fairly solid golf most of the time, a couple of good up-and-downs, a couple long putts, so very happy with it."

The 61-year-old German won the 2010 event and finished second last year, two strokes behind Mark Calcavecchia.

Woody Austin, Gene Sau-

ers, Tim Petrovic and Ken Tanigawa shot 65 in the first full-field event of the season, and Tom Lehman, Kevin Sutherland, Tom Byrum and Marco Dawson followed at 66. Lehman won the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship last month in Hawaii. Gary Nicklaus, the 50-year-old son of Jack Nicklaus, had a 67 in his PGA Tour Champions debut on a sponsor exemption. Nicklaus did not get through Champions qualifying last

year. "I was out of my element and kind of shaking like a leaf, which I didn't expect," he said. "But I kind of pulled it together, birdied the third hole and was off to the races." Fred Couples also opened with a 67.

Retief Goosen also made his senior debut, shooting 69. He will be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in June. John Daly opened with a 71, and Calcavecchia had a 72. Hal Sutton shot 73 in his first start on the tour since May 2017. □

Architect

Continued from Page 17

Knaus, the winningest crew chief in the garage, is essentially starting over. He goes to the Daytona 500 as crew chief for second-year driver William Byron, tasked with rebuilding the famed No. 24 team Jeff Gordon led to four titles.

Knaus started at Hendrick as an early member of Gordon's "Rainbow Warriors" crew. His mentor was Hall of Fame crew chief Ray Evernham and Knaus aspired to one day lead that team. He left Hendrick briefly to gain experience outside the organization and when he returned it wasn't for his dream job. Knaus instead was named head of a team that didn't yet exist and it was his job to build it around Johnson.

Knaus, wound tight with a laser-focus, led Johnson to victory lane by the 10th race of his rookie season and they were championship runner-up the next two years. But when they lost the title in 2005 and Knaus' intensity became too much for Johnson, team owner Rick Hendrick made the pair sit down over milk and cookies to either resolve their differences or be split up.

Johnson and Knaus came to a resolution and reeled off a record five consecutive titles, then added two more in 2013 and 2016 to join Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt as seven-time winners. Johnson won 83 races in Knaus-built Chev-

rolets and a pair of Daytona 500s, but as the Hendrick organization struggled last year, the No. 48 team failed to win a race for the first time since it launched in 2002. He returned Knaus to his roots with the No. 24 team and gave him Byron, a wide-eyed, fresh-faced 21-year-old driver in need of a seasoned crew chief. "William is very structured and very committed and a lot like a sponge," Hendrick said. "He's probably as smart as anyone I've met in the sport, very quiet, very focused and very much wants to learn. Chad is a real technician with the car, very outspoken, and William has asked for that and asked for some commitment and structure."

The change comes at a piv-

otal time for Knaus, who is far more than a crew chief chasing championships. He was a bachelor for most of his time with Johnson but is now married and last year welcomed his first child, son Kipling. Having a wife and child has mellowed Knaus while giving him interests away from the race car.

Knaus is only five years older than Johnson and the two grew up in the Cup Series together. With Byron, it's a totally different dynamic. "William is 21. I'm 47. We aren't going to be best friends," Knaus said. "It's not going to be the relationship Jimmie and I have."

Byron grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina, and used to stop at Johnson's house on Halloween to collect candy. Now he has John-

son's prized crew chief, who comes with a reputation as a relentless taskmaster who demands perfection from his team. "His experience level is really high, his work ethic is really high, but he's not, like, set in his ways," Byron said. "That is what I have noticed about him — he's open to do new things." Hendrick recently saw Knaus in the parking lot with a hauler showing his crew race weekend procedures. "It looked a lot like 2001 to me," Hendrick said. "Chad's life did change, he's got a baby now and he's got other things in his life, too, but he's also got something he wants to prove."

Knaus said he is rooting for Johnson and new crew chief Kevin Meendering,

and the quest for an eighth title won't become a rivalry.

"Obviously I would have loved to have done that with Jimmie. That is going to be painful in one respect, but I will be proud as heck of the guy," Knaus said. "Everybody is like, 'Man are you going to get the first win? Or is Jimmie going to get the first win?' Who cares? Who cares as long as we are both going out there, we are having a good time, we are racing and we are being successful. I'm not worried who gets the next one. I'm worried about remembering what it is we accomplished, what we did for 18 years, I think that is the most important element in this whole dynamic." □



In this Jan. 22, 2019, file photo, Chad Knaus speaks during a media event in Concord, N.C. Knaus, the winningest crew chief in the garage, is essentially starting over.

Associated Press

Berdych saves 2 match points on way to Montpellier semis

MONTPELLIER, France (AP) — Former champion Tomas Berdych reached the Open Sud de France semifinals the hard way, saving two match points in a 7-6 (3), 6-7 (5), 7-5 win against Filip Krajinovic on Friday. The two players were meeting for the first time on the ATP Tour, and made it a match to remember. It looked as if Berdych was going through in straight

sets when he went a break up in the second set. But Krajinovic, a Paris Masters finalist in 2017 after a surprising run from the qualifying rounds, broke back, took the tiebreaker and then led 5-4 and 40-15 in the third. Berdych, who is unseeded at the tournament he won in 2012, then turned the contest around. The 33-year-old Czech next faces seventh-seeded

Pierre-Hugues Herbert of France, who beat third-seeded Denis Shapovalov of Canada 7-5, 7-6 (4). Berdych beat Herbert in their only previous meeting, earlier this year in the quarterfinals of the Doha Open. Later Friday, Jeremy Chardy faces Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in an all-French quarterfinal, while Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus plays Radu Albot of Macedonia. □



In this Sunday, Jan. 20, 2019 file photo, Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic waves after his fourth round loss to Spain's Rafael Nadal at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia.

Associated Press

Germany to Facebook: Stop forcing users to share their data

By DAVID RISING and BARBARA ORTUTAY
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Facebook is pushing back against a German ruling that could make it harder for the company to combine data from all the services it runs in order to target ads even more precisely.

Thursday's ruling, though aimed at current practices, hints at potential troubles ahead if Facebook follows through with plans to integrate the messaging functions of WhatsApp, Instagram and Messenger as early as next year.

German antitrust authorities ruled Thursday that Facebook was exploiting its dominance in social media to force users to share data from other Facebook-owned services like WhatsApp and Instagram, as well as third-party websites through the "Like" and "Share" buttons.

The Federal Cartel Office, or Bundeskartellamt, isn't contesting Facebook's use of customer data to target ads on the main Facebook service. Rather, the ruling said Facebook should have to get permission separately before using customer data from other apps and websites to do so.

The company currently collects data on users' activities on Facebook and the other apps it owns, along with third-party websites. So, what someone views, likes or shares on Instagram — or the broader web — could be used to show that



In this Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 file photo the icons of Facebook and WhatsApp are pictured on an iPhone in Gelsenkirchen, Germany.

person an ad on Facebook. Facebook also has been moving to further integrate WhatsApp and Instagram into its main service after initially promising to keep both as stand-alone companies when it bought them.

Although Facebook hasn't given many details on its plans to integrate messaging, CEO Mark Zuckerberg said recently that the idea is to help users message one another more easily, without having to worry about who's on which service. The company also said it would encrypt all the messaging services, something it does by default only with WhatsApp.

But critics have raised another possible reason — the

threat of antitrust crackdowns. Essentially, if Facebook combines its messaging services so that they are different in name and design only, it will be much more difficult, if not impossible, to then separate out and spin off Instagram and WhatsApp as separate companies.

Combining the three services also lets Facebook build more complete data profiles on all of its users. Already, businesses can already target Facebook and Instagram users together with the same ad campaign, and ads are likely coming to WhatsApp eventually.

Then there's competition from other messaging services, such as Apple's or

Associated Press
Google's. Users are more likely to stay within Facebook's properties if they can easily message their friends across different services, rather than having to switch between Messenger, WhatsApp and Instagram. Privacy attorney Scott Vernick said he expects the integration plans to draw regulatory scrutiny, particularly in Europe. That's because of Facebook's promises that it would keep the companies separate when it bought Instagram in 2012 and WhatsApp in 2014. WhatsApp's founders quit the company over disagreements about user privacy.

"There is a high chance for antitrust concerns, as well as those over how

user data is collected and used," Vernick said.

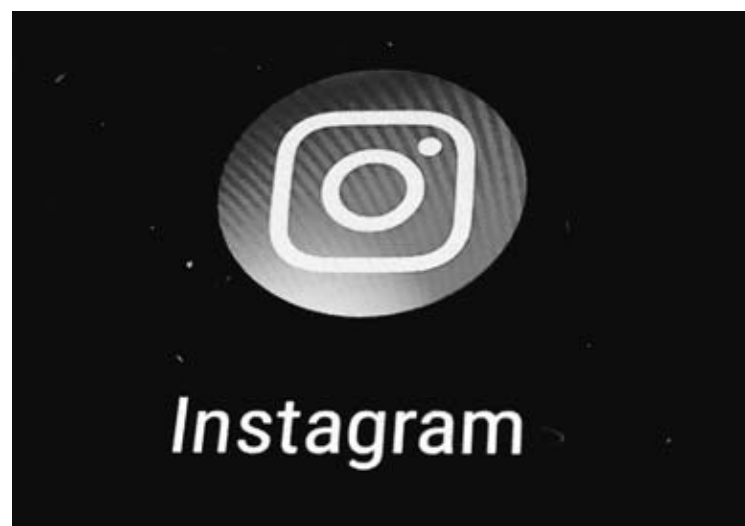
There are also worries that Facebook could build deeper profiles, such as by linking phone numbers to real-life identities, he added. Facebook doesn't require users to add their phone number, but WhatsApp is generally used with phone numbers. Between the two, Facebook gets more data.

In ruling that Facebook was a "dominant company," the Cartel Office said it was subject to "special obligations under competition law" and "must take into account that Facebook users practically cannot switch to other social networks."

"The only choice the user has is either to accept the comprehensive combination of data or to refrain from using the social network," it said in its judgment. "In such a difficult situation the user's choice cannot be referred to as voluntary consent."

The office said many users were not aware that Facebook is able to "collect an almost unlimited amount of any type of user data from third-party sources."

Facebook said German authorities underestimated the competition Facebook has in Germany from YouTube, Snapchat, Twitter and others. The company said it had been cooperating with the Cartel Office since 2016 and would "defend these important arguments in court." □



In this Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018 file photo, the Instagram app logo is displayed on a mobile screen in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Instagram changes rules on self-harm postings after suicide

LONDON (AP) — Instagram has agreed to ban graphic images of self-harm after objections were raised in Britain following the suicide of a teen whose father said the photo-sharing platform had contributed to her decision to take her own life. Instagram chief Adam Mosseri said Thursday evening the platform is making a series of changes to its con-

tent rules. He said: "We are not where we need to be on self-harm and suicide, and we need to do more to protect the most vulnerable in our community." Mosseri said further changes will be made.

"I have a responsibility to get this right," he said. "We will get better and we are committed to finding and removing this content at

scale, and working with experts and the wider industry to find ways to support people when they're most in need."

The call for changes was backed by the British government after the family of 14-year-old Molly Russell found material related to depression and suicide on her Instagram account after her death in 2017. □

Retailers are shopping for ways to get rid of checkout lines

By **MICHAEL LIEDTKE and JOSEPH PISANI**

AP Business Writers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Get ready to say good riddance to the checkout line.

A year after Amazon opened its first cashier-less store, startups and retailers are racing to get similar technology in stores throughout the world, letting shoppers buy groceries without waiting in line.

If they work, cashier-less stores will not only save time but maybe money too, for both cost-cutting merchants and customers whose shopping habits are dissected.

From cameras and sensors, the stores will know when shoppers pick up a product and put it down, and can send them a discount to tempt them to buy it. Merchants will be able to create more space for merchandise, better track when shelves need replenishing and draw more business from the hordes of customers who detest long lines.

But the monitoring system underlying cashier-less technology is bound to raise new privacy issues and worries about customer data falling into the wrong hands, especially if stores deploy facial recognition software in the omnipresent cameras watching shoppers.

"It could be scary, and it could be creepy," says Pe-



In this Jan. 22, 2018, file photo a shopper scans an Amazon Go app on a cellphone while entering an Amazon Go store in Seattle.

ter Trepp, CEO of FaceFirst, a Los Angeles company that so far has only sold its facial recognition tools to retailers trying to identify shoplifters and other criminals. "But if it's used to give people a 30 percent coupon on something they want that is going to be a nice benefit. That kind of experience will help people embrace the technology." Amazon has a head start in the U.S., opening 10 convenience stores in three cities: Chicago, San Francisco and Seattle. The stores sell salads and sandwiches for lunch, everyday items like toilet paper and Advil, and groceries such as Cheerios and raw ground beef.

Shoppers scan an app to enter the Amazon Go store,

grab what they want and walk out. Cameras and sensors on the ceiling track what's taken so their credit or debit cards are automatically charged when they leave. Shoppers will know how long it took to shop, since Amazon sends an alert with their shopping time.

"It was just a phenomenal experience," said Tom Hadfield, who bought a Coke Zero in a minute and five seconds at one of the Go stores in San Francisco while visiting the city recently.

"You just know it's going to be the future," he said.

Amazon doesn't say how much money its cashier-less stores make. But analysts from RBC Capital Mar-

Associated Press

kets recently visited Amazon Go's two San Francisco stores to come up with a number. Based on their observations of traffic patterns, they estimated about 400 to 700 customers per day will visit each of the roughly 2,000-square-foot Amazon Go stores, generating sales of \$1.1 million to \$2 million annually, assuming an average purchase of \$10. At the high end of that range, it works out to twice the sales of a typical U.S. convenience store, RBC calculated.

Several startups are pitching technology to retailers who want to create Amazon Go-like stores of their own. One of the companies, called AiFi, says it has signed deals with the Car-

refour chain in France and Zabka convenience stores in Poland. Others, including Zippin, Grabandgo, Trigo Vision and Inokyo, say they are negotiating deals with retailers in the U.S. and other parts of the world, although none are ready to identify them yet.

"Once a few big retail chains begin to deploy this technology, it's going to snowball and we will see more and more of them doing it," says Michael Suswal, co-founder of Standard Cognition, another cashier-less technology startup.

So far, companies working on the technology are finding ways to do without facial recognition. Their systems rely on cameras for identifying objects rather than people. Like Amazon, they rely on tailored smartphone apps to identify who is entering the store and to process the sale for whatever products are taken.

Both Standard Cognition and Zippin opened small stores in San Francisco last year that have held invitation-only demonstrations or been open for limited hours with a scant selection of merchandise.

"I like the idea of being able to come into a store, grab what you want and just walk out," says Tomonori Nishimura, a 30-year-old researcher for Fujitsu Laboratories after getting a bag of Funyuns at Standard's small store in San Francisco recently. □

Automakers recall 1.7 million cars with fatal airbags

By **TOM KRISHER**

AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) —

Subaru, Tesla, BMW, Volkswagen, Daimler Vans, Mercedes and Ferrari are recalling about 1.7 million vehicles to replace potentially deadly air bag inflators made by Takata Corp. of Japan.

The inflators can hurl shrapnel into drivers and passengers. At least 23 people have died from the problem worldwide and hundreds more were injured.

The moves, announced Friday by the U.S. govern-



This June 25, 2017 file photo shows TK Holdings Inc. headquarters in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Associated Press

ment, are part of the largest series of automotive recalls in U.S. history. About 10 million inflators are being recalled in the U.S. this year, with as many as 70 million to be recalled by the time the whole mess ends late

next year.

Takata used the chemical ammonium nitrate to create a small explosion to inflate the air bags. But the chemical can deteriorate over time due to high humidity and cycles from hot

temperatures to cold. The most dangerous inflators are in areas of the South along the Gulf of Mexico that have high humidity.

The recalls, which began in 2001, are being phased in over time and managed by the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

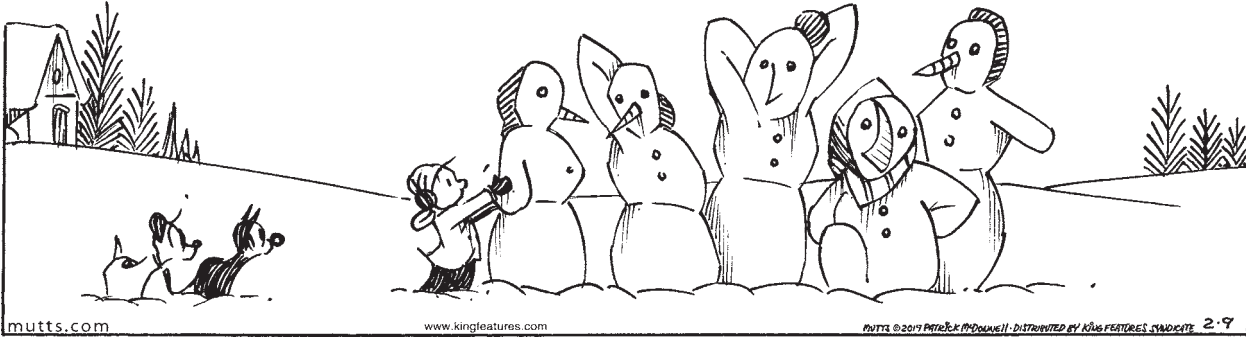
Many of the recalls are limited to specific geographic regions in the U.S. Owners can check to see if their vehicles have been recalled by going to <https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls> and key-

ing in a 17-digit vehicle identification number.

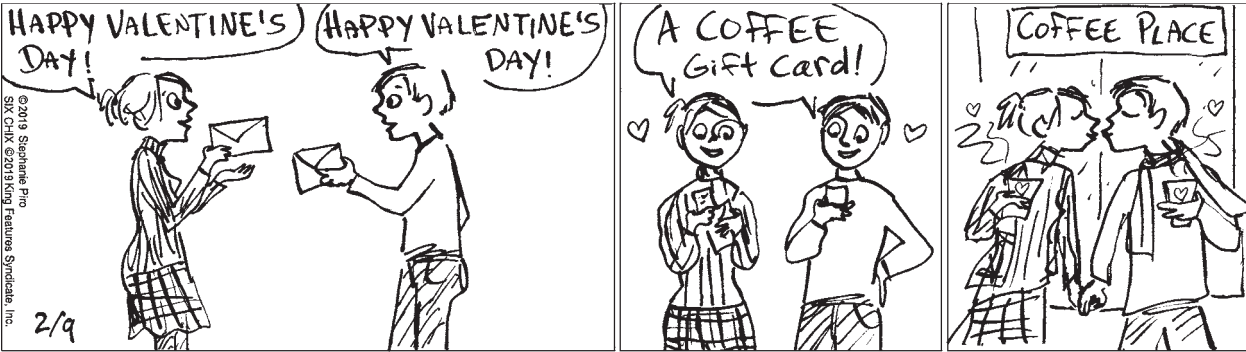
In the latest round, Subaru is recalling 826,144 vehicles, including various Forester, Legacy and Outback models from 2010 to 2014. Mercedes is recalling 288,779 vehicles from model years 2010 to 2017.

Volkswagen is recalling 119,394 vehicles, including Audi and Passat models from 2015 to 2017. BMW is recalling 266,044 vehicles from 2000 to 2004 model years and the 2007 to 2015 model years. □

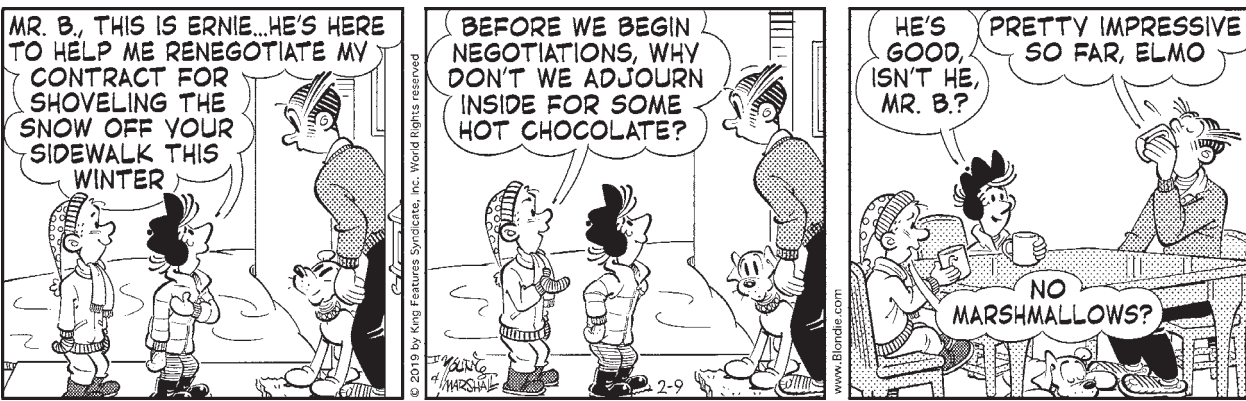
Mutts



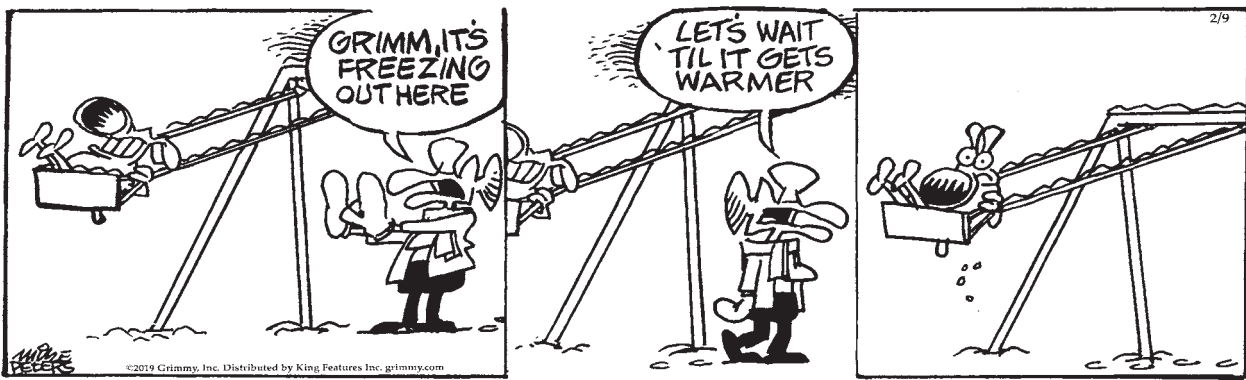
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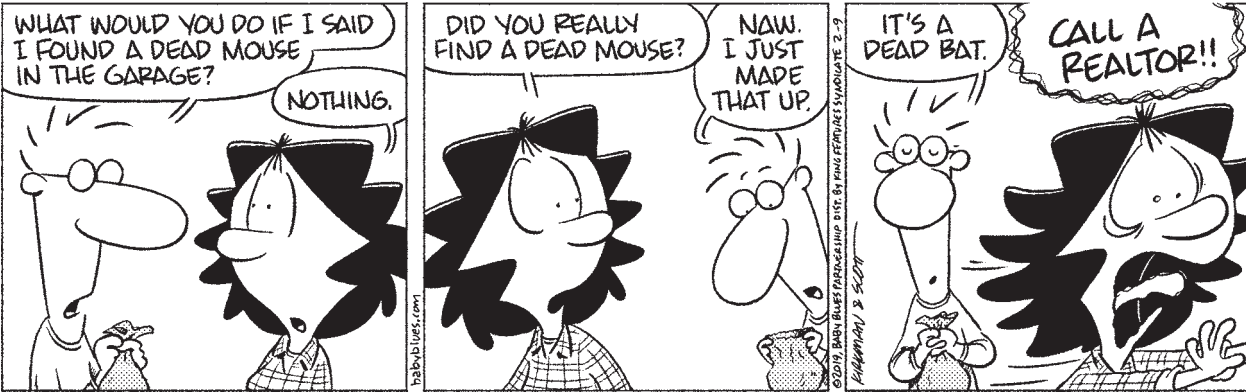
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

5			9		1	2		6
	7			4			9	
9								
2								5
	1			3			8	
6								1
								8
	4			1			6	
1		2	3		4			7

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2/09

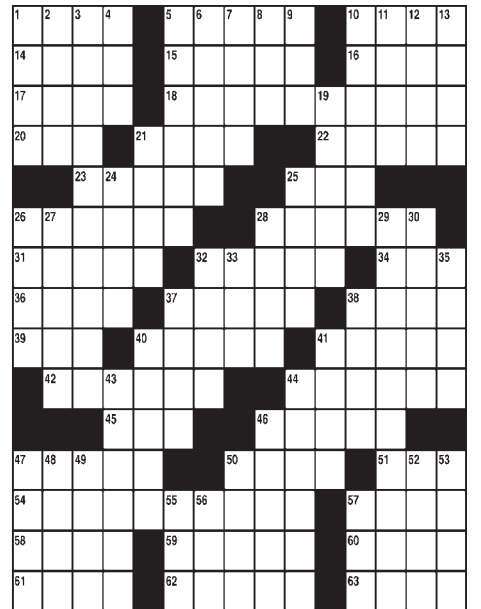
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	1	6	9	7	3	2	5	4
9	7	4	5	6	2	1	8	3
3	2	5	1	8	4	9	7	6
1	6	7	2	3	9	8	4	5
5	3	2	8	4	6	7	9	1
4	8	9	7	1	5	6	3	2
6	5	8	4	2	7	3	1	9
2	9	1	3	5	8	4	6	7
7	4	3	6	9	1	5	2	8

ACROSS

- Lose one's footing
- Sudden military raid
- Fail to include
- Word with Morse or zip
- State one's views
- Churchill Downs event
- minded; receptive to new ideas
- Became friends again
- Actress Leoni
- Certain
- Pays attention to
- Camel's smaller cousin
- Jose, CA
- Planetary visitors
- Tattletale
- Misplaces
- Egypt's — Dam
- Word attached to meal or cake
- Cookware
- Leftover bit
- Factual
- lift; T-bar, e.g.
- Flag-maker Ross
- Harbor towns
- Weight revealers
- Bach's " — in G Major"
- Jewel
- Unwanted nasal growth
- Quaking tree
- Deep mud
- Tit for —
- Limits
- Wave movement
- Uplifting tune
- Polka or tango
- Seep out
- Building annexes
- Iron alloy
- On — own; independent
- Starry-eyed
- Animal enclosure
- Public discussion places
- "Carmen" or "Otello"
- Asian staple
- Year in Spain
- Craving
- Line up
- Man or boy
- Applied frosting
- Koppel & Kennedy
- Series of links
- Without
- Marvin & Majors
- In a —; instantly
- Mont Blanc's range
- at; observes
- Convince
- Dishonesty in officials
- Terre —, IN
- up; misbehaves
- Fathers of Jrs.
- Examination
- Appear
- Theater award
- Mix together
- Stack
- Insurance policy sellers
- Tidbit
- Portion
- Up to the task
- Dirt
- Yank
- Excavation site
- Shaping tool
- Ball holders
- Promos
- One not to be trusted
- Also



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/9/19

Friday's Puzzle Solved

BOG	ASPIC	EBBS
EDAM	SHALL	CLUE
ADZE	SANKA	HOLE
SENSELESS	OWLS	
TOTE	HOE	
THROBS	SHINDIGS	
HOURS	SAUNA	RAM
ARMS	THING	DATA
IDO	TRUNK	CATER
SERGEANT	FOREST	
RAN	GULL	
PLEA	SPLITTING	
QUAD	MAORI	NOON
RARE	ITALL	GENE
SUNS	TENSE	LEW

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2/9/19



In this Wednesday, March 27, 2013 file photo, Melati a female Sumatran Tiger walks past her frozen pool, at London Zoo.
Associated Press

Rare tiger kills prospective mate in London at first meeting

By **GREGORY KATZ**
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — For ten days, the London Zoo kept its newly arrived male Sumatran tiger Asim in a separate enclosure from Melati, the female tiger who was supposed to become his mate. Zoologists gave them time to get used to each other's presence and smells, and waited for

what they felt would be the right time to let them get together. They put the two tigers into the same enclosure — and Asim killed Melati as shocked handlers tried in vain to intervene. It was a tragic end to hopes that the two would breed as part of a Europe-wide tiger conservation program for the endangered Sumatran subspecies. □

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3BEDROM \$26k
*WK. 51 OV \$39k
*WK 52 OV \$46k
* Weeks 7 and 14-all views

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
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Fish pass mirror test, but does it mean they're self-aware?

By MALCOLM RITTER

AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists report that a fish can pass a standard test of recognizing itself in a mirror — and they raise a question about what that means.

Does this decades-old test, designed to show self-awareness in animals, really do that?

Since the mirror test was introduced in 1970, scientists have found that relatively few animals can pass it. Most humans can by age 18 to 24 months, and so can chimps and orangutans, says the test's inventor, evolutionary psychologist Gordon Gallup Jr. of Albany College in New York. Outside of ape species, many researchers say there's also good evidence for passing the test in bottlenose dolphins, Asian elephants and European magpies, although Gallup is skeptical of those results. The test exposes animals to a mirror and looks for reactions that indicate some recognition of themselves. For example, do the animals do unusual things to see if the image copies them? Do they appear to use the mirror to explore their own bodies? And if researchers mark an ani-



In this undated photo provided by researcher Alex Jordan in February 2019, a cleaner wrasse interacts with its reflection in a mirror placed on the outside of the aquarium glass.

mal in a place the creature can observe only in the mirror, does the animal try to remove it?

Passing the test suggests an animal can "become the object of its own attention," and if it does, it should be able to use its own experience to infer what others know, want or intend to do, said Gallup, who did not participate in the fish study.

The new paper released Thursday by PLOS Biology subjected up to 10 fish to various parts of the test.

Alex Jordan, who's at the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology in Konstanz, Germany, and colleagues observed a reef-dwelling species called the cleaner wrasse doing odd behaviors like swimming upside-down by the mirror. When

four fish were injected with a tag that left a visible brown mark under their throats, three scraped that part of their bodies against a rock or the sandy bottom of the tank, as if trying to remove it.

But Jordan says his fish could have succeeded without possessing true self-awareness.

They may have matched

the reflection to parts of their own bodies, but he said that less-sophisticated mental talent doesn't require self-awareness, which includes talents like distinguishing their own bodies from those of other fish or recognizing their own territory or possessions. Nor does it imply self-consciousness, which means thinking about oneself and one's own behavior in relation to how others act, he said in an email.

Gallup said he believes the experimental procedure was flawed, so the fish can't really be said to have passed the test.

Frans de Waal, an expert on ape and monkey behavior at Emory University's Yerkes National Primate Research Center in Atlanta, said he found the fish results to be inconclusive.

In a journal commentary, de Waal also said it's better to think of different animals having varying degrees of self-awareness, rather than considering it an all-or-nothing trait possessed by just a few species.

"To explore self-awareness further we should stop looking at responses to the mirror as the litmus test" and turn to other means of evaluation, he said. □



This illustration made available by NASA on March 29, 2018 shows the twin Mars Cube One (MarCO) spacecraft flying over Mars with Earth and the sun in the distance.

Associated Press

Tiny satellites fall silent after proving new tech at Mars

By MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.

(AP) — Two tiny satellites have fallen silent hundreds of millions of miles away, after proving new technology at Mars.

The twin CubeSats, nicknamed WALL-E and EVE, shadowed NASA's InSight lander to Mars last year. As the lander descended to the Martian surface in November, the briefcase-size satellites flew past the red planet, providing real-time updates to ground controllers in this first-of-its-kind experiment.

This week, NASA said it

hasn't heard from them for more than a month now — and doubts it ever will.

WALL-E, which had been leaking fuel since liftoff last May, last radioed back on Dec. 29.

It's now more than 1 million miles (1.6 million kilometers) beyond Mars. EVE went mum on Jan. 4; it's nearly 2 million miles (3.2 million kilometers) past the red planet.

These were the first CubeSats to venture into deep space, part of an \$18.5 million experiment to see whether such compact, cheap devices might serve as radio relays at faraway

worlds.

Chief engineer Andy Kleish noted the mission was about pushing the limits of miniaturized technology.

"We've put a stake in the ground," he said. "Future CubeSats might go even farther."

Engineers speculate WALL-E and EVE might be wobbling and unable to point precisely to send messages, or there could be battery recharging issues.

In any event, the mini satellites will remain in an elongated orbit around the sun. They were named after the main characters in the 2008 animated movie. □

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Henry Winkler enjoying a run of very cool coincidences

By BROOKE LEFFERTS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Things are coming full circle for Henry Winkler in many ways.

The actor, best known for playing "The Fonz" on the 1970s hit sitcom "Happy Days," is also a prolific author of children's books and recently paid a visit to promote his latest book at his old elementary school in New York City.

"I thought this was amazing. The way the world comes together," he told the Associated Press.

His latest book is the 29th in a series, called "Here's Hank: Everybody is Somebody," about a kid named Hank who goes to Public School 87 in New York City, the same school the author attended. It's based on Winkler's experiences as a child who struggles to read and keep up at school.

Winkler never dreamed he'd be an author. He had trouble reading as a child and academics were difficult for him. It wasn't until he was an adult and his stepson was diagnosed with dyslexia that his own challenges had a name.

In an effort to help children like him, he got together with comedy writer Lin Oliver and wrote the first



In this Feb. 5, 2019 photo, actor and author Henry Winkler appears during a portrait session in New York to promote his latest book in the "Here's Hank" series, "Everybody Is Somebody."

Associated Press

book in their best-selling series. The message of the books is that no matter how hard school is, it has nothing to do with intelligence. It struck a nerve with both kids and parents.

"Even at 73, I can tap into the pain of the 8-, 9-, 10-year-old in me that never achieved. I was told that I would never achieve. I failed at everything except

for going home. I was really good when the bell rung," Winkler said.

The books are designed with easy-to-read font and simple stories. Winkler says they've been a "breakthrough" for some kids. "What a compliment. We've met kids who said 'How did you know me so well?' Or they would nudge their parent to go 'This is

me. This is the way I feel,' so parents learn about their child and that child didn't feel alone," he said.

After nearly 50 years in the entertainment business, Winkler is having a moment. In addition to the book series, he just finished work on season two of the quirky HBO comedy, "Barry," for which he just won his first Emmy Award.

"It was really terrific. People say that they have their Emmy as a doorstop or in the bathroom.

Mine is on the dining room table. You can't miss it. You know what? I'm having a chain made right as we speak so I can wear it as a necklace," he said with a laugh.

In another full circle moment, he recently wrapped a scene in "Barry" and realized he was on Stage 19 at the Paramount lot. "That is the very sound stage where for nine years we shot 'Happy Days,'" he said.

Winkler recently finished shooting in France on a new Wes Anderson film starring Timothee Chalamet. In yet another remarkable turn of events, when he met Chalamet, the young actor told him that not only did he also go to P.S. 87 but he once heard Winkler read a "Hank" book in that same school library when he was 8 years old.

"You know my mantra for the longest time has always been 'If you will it, it is not a dream,'" Winkler said, "and literally a few years ago I changed my mantra to 'I will try' because if you don't, you don't know what wonderfulness is inside you, what you can actually do." □

Studio immortalizes 'Big Bang Theory' as series nears finale

By DAVID BAUDER

AP Media Writer

BURBANK, Calif. (AP) — Champagne briefly replaced scripts Thursday for a ceremony renaming the nondescript Stage 25 on the sprawling Warner Bros. production lot after the sitcom "The Big Bang Theory." Still television's most popular comedy, the show will exit the airwaves and the studio it has called home for 12 years this spring.

Actors Jim Parsons, Johnny Galecki, Kaley Cuoco, Mayim Bialik and the rest of the comic ensemble ran through lines for an episode that will air in early March before studio brass joined them to unveil a plaque.



In this Jan. 18, 2017 file photo, the cast and crew of "The Big Bang Theory" accept the award for favorite network TV comedy at the People's Choice Awards at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

"We're going to be miserable when this is over," series

creator Chuck Lorre told the cast and assembled

crew. "I'm so sad." Lorre said it wasn't his call to end the series, but now that it's been made the time feels right.

The cast rehearsed an episode that hints at some upcoming transitions with barely a flub. It's not an unfamiliar ritual: they will have made 279 episodes by the time it all ends in May.

The episode they rehearsed will be filmed before a live audience later this week.

Only four other studios at Warner Bros. have a similar plaque for the series that filmed there, with others named for "Two and a Half Men," "ER," "Friends" and "Ellen." Given that he was also behind "Two and

a Half Men," it's the second such honor that Lorre is responsible for. One of the most successful comedy producers of all time, Lorre also produces "Mom" and "Young Sheldon" for CBS.

While broad, mainstream fare is his forte, Lorre just won a Golden Globe when his Netflix series "The Kominsky Method," which stars Michael Douglas and Alan Arkin, was named best comedy.

Despite success in what is seen as the hipper streaming service, Lorre said in an interview he has no interest in turning his back on broadcast television, the medium that earned him a fortune. □

Director Spike Lee boycotts Gucci, Prada for blackface items

By COLLEEN BARRY

AP Fashion Writer

MILAN (AP) — Director Spike Lee said Friday he will no longer wear Gucci or Prada until the brands hire some black designers following a pair of blackface fashion fails from the major Italian fashion houses.

Lee said on Instagram that "It's Obvious To Da Peoples That They Don't Have A Clue When It Comes To Racist, Blackface Hateful Imagery. WAKE UP."

Spike said the brands needed to have black designers "To Be In Da Room When It Happen."

His personal boycott in the midst of movie awards season was a powerful message to luxury fashion houses that are already suffering backlashes for designs evoking racist images.

Lee donned Gucci on the Venice Film Festival red carpet last September, following up with a stop by the Prada womenswear preview show in Milan later in the month decked out in a black Prada suit.

Gucci this week apologized for a high-neck black



Spike Lee poses for a portrait at the 91st Academy Awards Nominees Luncheon at The Beverly Hilton Hotel on Monday, Feb. 4, 2019, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

wool sweater that featured bright red lips when pulled over the face, while Prada apologized for a monkey bag charm resembling blackface in December. Both brands withdrew the offending pieces from sale on both websites and stores. Prada said it "abhors all forms of racism," while Gucci called it "a powerful learning moment for the Gucci team and beyond." The blackface images have particular resonance in the United States at a

time when the governor of Virginia and his attorney general have been caught up in a scandal over blackface incidents from their college days in the 1980s. The offensive depictions are reminiscent of traveling minstrels from the 19th century, who would paint their faces black to portray African characters in a ridicu-

lous and mocking fashion. Blackface hasn't been the only fashion faux pas in recent memory. Dolce & Gabbana faced a boycott in China — the luxury world's number one market by a long shot — after one of its designers insulted Chinese people in a private chat over promotional videos featuring a Chinese model struggling to eat Italian food with chopsticks, which was seen as culturally insensitive.

Commenting on the controversies during New York Fashion Week, model Cipriana Quann said the offending designs suggested a lack of diversity within the companies, not just in the design studios but also the board rooms and on the runways.

"When the company is not diverse, so they're not inclusive," the model said. "So, the more diverse your company, the more you'll be able to catch those cul-

tural appropriation screw ups." "So, you need to see it across the map. So not only in the boardroom. On the runway, even in street-style photography, not photographing women that are only homogenous in looks, you need diversity as well. In every aspect," she said. While design houses have creative directors whose put their faces on the collections — Alessandro Michele at Gucci and Miuccia Prada at her brand — they work with considerable design teams behind the scenes.

Also in New York, Japanese-American designer Tadashi Shoji said that the brands appeared to be lacking in cultural sensitivity.

"What are they thinking as a designer in the business? That is what puzzles me. If you think about this simple, simple stuff, offending these customers, I think it's not good for business," Shoji said Thursday night. □

Michael Jackson's estate assails HBO plans for documentary

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michael Jackson's estate is calling HBO's decision to air a documentary that includes allegations from two men that the superstar molested them "disgraceful" and is urging the cable network to further investigate their backgrounds.

The 10-page letter released Friday offers a meeting with HBO executives to try to discredit the stories of the two men featured in the documentary "Leaving Neverland," Wade Robson and James Safechuck. The estate contends the men are lying and court filings and story inconsistencies prove that.

The letter, written by estate attorney Howard Weitzman, assails the documentary for focusing solely on Robson and Safechuck's stories and not interviewing anyone from Jackson's family, his estate or others who knew him. It states Robson had sought



In this Jan. 24, 2019, file photo Wade Robson, from left, director Dan Reed and James Safechuck pose for a portrait to promote the film "Leaving Neverland" at the Salesforce Music Lodge during the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

Associated Press

work on a Jackson-themed Cirque du Soleil show and raised the molestation allegations only after he wasn't hired. The first installment of the four-hour documentary will first air on HBO on March 3, with the second half airing the following night. HBO said in a statement after the letter's release: "Our plans remain unchanged. ... Dan Reed is an award-winning filmmaker who has care-

fully documented these survivors' accounts. People should reserve judgment until they see the film." Both Robson and Safechuck both alleged they were molested and unsuccessfully sued Jackson's estate after the singer's June 2009 death. Robson testified in Jackson's defense at a 2005 molestation trial that ended with the singer's acquittal. □

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From 'Tom Jones' to 'Skyfall': star Albert Finney dies at 82

By GREGORY KATZ
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Albert Finney, one of the most respected and versatile actors of his generation and the star of films as diverse as "Tom Jones" and "Skyfall," has died. He was 82.

From his early days as a strikingly handsome and magnetic screen presence to his closing acts as a brilliant character actor, Finney was a British treasure known for charismatic work on both stage and screen. Finney's family said Friday that he "passed away peacefully after a short illness with those closest to him by his side."

He died Thursday from a chest infection at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London, a cancer treatment center.

Finney burst to international fame in 1963 in the title role of "Tom Jones," playing a lusty, humorous rogue who captivated audience with his charming, devil-may-care antics.

He excelled in many other roles, including "Saturday Night and Sunday Morning", a 1960 drama that was part of the "angry young man" film trend.

Finney was a rare star who managed to avoid the Hollywood limelight despite more than five decades of worldwide fame. He was known for skipping awards ceremonies, even when he was nominated for an Oscar.

"Tom Jones" gained him the first of five Oscar nominations. Other nominations followed for "Murder on the Orient Express," "The Dresser," "Under the Volcano" and "Erin Brockovich." Each time he fell short. In later years he brought authority to bid-budget and high-grossing action movies, including the James Bond thriller "Skyfall" and two of the Bourne films. He also won hearts as Daddy Warbucks in "Annie."

He played an array of roles, including Winston Churchill, Pope John Paul II, a southern American lawyer, and an Irish gangster. There was no "Albert Finney"-type

character that he returned to again and again.

In one of his final roles, as the gruff Scotsman, Kincaide, in "Skyfall," he shared significant screen time with Daniel Craig as Bond and Judi Dench as M, turning the film's final scenes into a master class of character acting.

"The world has lost a giant," Craig said.

Although Finney rarely discussed his personal life, he said in 2012 that he had been treated for kidney cancer for five years.

He also explained why he had not attended the Academy Awards in Los Angeles even when he was nominated for the film world's top prize.

"It seems silly to go over there and beg for an award," he said.

The son of a bookmaker, Finney was born May 9, 1936, and grew up in northern England on the outskirts of Manchester. He took to the stage at an early age, doing a number of school plays and — despite his lack of connections and his working-class roots — earning a place at London's prestigious Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts.

He credited the headmaster of his local school, Eric Simms, for recommending that he attend the renowned drama school.

"He's the reason I am an actor," Finney said in 2012. Finney made his first professional turn at 19 and appeared in several TV movies.

Soon, some critics were hailing him as "the next Laurence Olivier" — a commanding presence who would light up the British stage. In London, Finney excelled both in Shakespeare's plays and in more contemporary offerings.

Still, the young man seemed determined not to pursue conventional Hollywood stardom. After an extensive screen test, he turned down the chance to play the title role in director David Lean's epic "Lawrence of Arabia," clearing the way for fellow RADA graduate Peter O'Toole to



In this Feb. 25, 2001 file photo, actor Albert Finney, poses for a photo. British Actor Albert Finney, the Academy Award-nominated star of films from "Tom Jones" to "Skyfall" has died at the age of 82 it was reported on Friday, Feb. 8, 2019.

Associated Press

take what became a career-defining role.

But stardom came to Finney anyway in "Tom Jones".

That was the role that introduced Finney to American audiences, and few would forget the sensual, blue-eyed leading man who helped the film win a Best Picture Oscar. Finney also earned his first Best Actor nomination for his efforts and the smash hit turned him into a Hollywood leading man.

Finney had the good fortune to receive a healthy percentage of the profits from the surprise hit, giving him financial security while he was still in his 20s.

"This is a man from very humble origins who became rich when he was very young," said Quentin Falk, author of an unauthorized biography of Finney. "It brought him a lot of side benefits. He's a man who likes to live as well as to act. He enjoys his fine wine and

cigars. He's his own man. I find that rather admirable."

The actor maintained a healthy skepticism about the British establishment and turned down a knighthood when it was offered, declining to become Sir Albert.

"Maybe people in America think being a 'Sir' is a big deal," he said. "But I think we should all be misters together. I think the 'Sir' thing slightly perpetuates one of our diseases in England, which is snobbery."

He told The Associated Press in 2000 that he would rather be a "mister" than a "Sir."

Instead of cashing in by taking lucrative film roles after "Tom Jones," Finney took a long sabbatical, traveling slowly through the United States, Mexico and the Pacific islands, then returned to the London stage to act in Shakespeare productions and other plays. He won wide acclaim be-

fore returning to film in 1967 to co-star with Audrey Hepburn in "Two for the Road." This was to be a familiar pattern, with Finney alternating between film work and stage productions in London and New York.

Finney tackled Charles Dickens in "Scrooge" in 1970, then played Agatha Christie's sophisticated sleuth Hercule Poirot in "Murder on the Orient Express" — earning his second Best Actor nomination — and even played a werewolf hunter in the cult film "Wolfen" in 1981.

In 1983, he was reunited with his peer from the "angry young man" movement, Tom Courtenay, in "The Dresser," a film that garnered both Academy Award nominations.

Finney was nominated again for his role as a self-destructive alcoholic in director John Huston's 1984 film "Under the Volcano."

Even during this extraordinary run of great roles, Finney's life was not chronicled in People or other magazines, although the British press was fascinated with his marriage to the sultry French film star Anouk Aimee.

He played in a series of smaller, independent films for a number of years before returning to prominence in 2000 as a southern lawyer in the film "Erin Brockovich," which starred Julia Roberts.

The film helped introduce Finney to a new generation of moviegoers, and the chemistry between the aging lawyer and his young, aggressive assistant earned him yet another Oscar nomination, this time for Best Supporting Actor.

The Old Vic theater said his "performances in plays by Shakespeare, Chekhov and other iconic playwrights throughout the '60s, '70s and '80s stand apart as some of the greatest in our 200-year history."

Finney is survived by his third wife, Pene Delmage, son Simon and two grandchildren. Funeral arrangements weren't immediately known. □



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